FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Soviet Union

Vol III No 29 10 February 1978

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DISARMAMENT & SALT

U.S., USSR SALT Delegations Meet in Geneva 8 Feb — AA 1 1/A6
Hungarian Delegate Speaks at Geneva Disarmament Talks — AA 1 1/A6

CSCE/MBFR

U.S. Military Actions in FRG Contradict Purpose of MBFR Talks [Tyupayev] — BB 1 1/A7

GENERAL

Munich NATO Meeting Seeks Public Support for Arms Buildup [Mikhaylov in PRAVDA 8 Feb] — A 1 1/A8
NATO States' Increasing Military Expenditure Reported — A 2 1/A9
Detente Serves Interests of Europe's Small States [Melnikov in PRAVDA] — A 2 1/A9
UN Human Rights Commission Session Opens in Geneva [Lopatin] — A 3 1/A10
Zionism, U.S. Indian Policy — A 4 1/A11
Proceedings of UN Preparatory Disarmament Session Reported — A 4 1/A11
Soviet Working Document — A 5 1/A12
UN Nonalined States Note Need To Curb Arms Race [Matyash] — A 6 1/A13

UNITED STATES

Additional Material on As-Sadat's U.S. Visit — B 1 1/A14
U.S. Orientation Toward Israel [PRAVDA] — B 1 1/A14
As-Sadat's 'Capitulatory' Role — B 1 1/A14
Shift to 'Secret Talks' — B 2 1/B1
U.S.-Israeli Differences Over Settlements Reported [Dmitriyev] — B 3 1/B2
'Contradictory' U.S. Arms Policy Causes 'Serious Concern' [Ziborov] — B 4 1/B3
Nevada Training Center Stages 'Provocative Military Games' [Trushin] — B 5 1/B4
U.S. Talks With ROK To Efface 'Bribery Scandal' — B 6 1/B5

CHINA

West German Report Says Liu Shao-chi 'In Good Health' — C 1 1/B6
PRC Sides 'Once and for All' With Imperialism, Reaction [Trushin in SELSKAYA ZHIZN 5 Feb] — C 1 1/B6
China Warned Against Encouraging, Seeking Neutron Bomb [Ivanov in KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA 2 Feb] — C 3 1/B8

PRC's Propaganda Manipulations Try To Cover 'Criminal Policy' C 4 1/B9
[Goncharov]
Maoist Domestic, Foreign Policy Unchanged Despite New Slogans C 5 1/B10
[PRAVDA 3 Feb]
TV Program Examines Maoist Course of PRC Leadership C 6 1/B11
[Krushinskiy in PRAVDA 2 Feb]

WEST EUROPE & CANADA

PRAVDA Carries Kosygin Speech at Dinner for Kreisky E 1 1/B12
[8 Feb]
Kreisky Interviewed in Moscow on Results of USSR Visit E 3 1/B14
[Vienna]
Austrian CP Member Lauds Kreisky's Moscow Visit E 3 1/B14
CDU/CSU Engineered Leber's Fall to Weaken Government E 4 1/C1
[Mikhaylov in PRAVDA 4 Feb]
FRG Press Comments on Lambsdorf's Visit to U.S. E 5 1/C2
Andreotti Resumes Talks, PCI Position Scored E 5 1/C2
[Prozhogin in PRAVDA 8 Feb]
Italy: DC Attempts To Form Government Reviewed E 6 1/C3
[Prozhogin in PRAVDA 5 Feb]
Zimyanin Receives Finnish Center Party General Secretary E 8 1/C5
[PRAVDA 31 Jan]
Cunhal Cited on PS-CDS Coalition, Austerity Policy E 8 1/C5
[PRAVDA 7 Feb]
Soares Performance Will Determine Length of Office E 9 1/C6

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Clashes in Beirut, South Blamed on Arab Reaction, Israel F 1 1/C7
[Borisov, Volnov]
Syria's Al-Asad Scheduled To Visit USSR in February F 1 1/C7
Al-Asad Condemns As-Sadat's Policy at Press Conference F 2 1/C8
Results of As-Sadat Visit to U.S. Disappoint Cairo F 2 1/C8
[Gerasimov]
L'HUMANITE Reports Egypt 'Sliding Toward Economic Disaster' F 3 1/C9
New Egyptian Al-Wafd Party To Resemble Front Organization F 4 1/C10
[Vasilyev in PRAVDA 7 Feb]
Evidence of Bourgeois Strength [Moseyev in IZVESTIYA 7 Feb] F 4 1/C10
Algiers Summit Says Egypt Furthers Imperialists Schemes F 5 1/C11
[Knyazev in IZVESTIYA 7 Feb]
PDRY Prime Minister's Visit to USSR Praised by Aden Paper F 5 1/C11
PDRY Paper Criticizes U.S. Strategy in Gulf, Indian Ocean F 6 1/C12
PDRY, Algerian Party Talks in Algiers Reported F 6 1/C12

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Continuing Material on Horn of Africa Conflict H 1 1/C13
Ethiopian Military Successes [Lobachenko] H 1 1/C13
Call to Somali Soldiers H 1 1/C13
Somali Callup H 2 1/C14
Ethiopian Statement H 2 1/C14
Possibility of U.S. 'Interference' H 2 1/C1
Report on French Tanks H 3 1/D1
Ethiopians Confident of Victory With Help of 'Reliable Friend' H 3 1/D1
[Baba-Zade in SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA 31 Jan]

Economy of Ethiopia Passes 'Stern Test of Viability' [Korovikov in PRAVDA 7 Feb]	H 4	1/D2
Ethiopian Workers Call for Marxist-Leninist Party	H 5	1/D3
Zimbabwe Communique Says 1,000 Rhodesian Soldiers Killed	H 6	1/D4
INDOCHINA		
Political Revenge, CIA Had Role in SRV Envoy's Expulsion [Moskvin]	L 1	1/D5
UN Condemns Action	L 1	1/D5
'Unprecedented' Act	L 2	1/D6
Vietnamese Report on Latest Cambodian 'Aggression' Cited	L 2	1/D6
Scene of SRV Border After Cambodian Attacks Described [Levin in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 4 Feb]	L 3	1/D7
Army Gen Pavlovskiy Visits Laos, Talks With Souphanouvong	L 6	1/D10
Meeting With Souphanouvong [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 4 Feb]	L 6	1/D1
Army Friendship Meeting [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 3 Feb]	L 7	1/D11
Return to Moscow [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 5 Feb]	L 7	1/D11
NORTHEAST ASIA		
DPRK Memorandum Draws World Attention to ROK Militarization [Shtykanov in IZVESTIYA 7 Feb]	M 1	1/D12
Increased Militarism in Japan Makes Democratic Public Uneasy [Mozgovoy in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 3 Feb]	M 2	1/D13
NATIONAL AFFAIRS		
POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS		
Brezhnev Presents Birthday Awards to Kulakov in Kremlin	R 1	1/D14
Romanov Reads Brezhnev Greetings to Builders of Icebreaker	R 3	1/E2
Brezhnev Greetings [PRAVDA 7 Feb]	R 3	1/E2
Romanov Addresses Workers	R 3	1/E2
Shortcomings, Excessive Tolerance Seen in Law, Order Organs [Editorial in KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA 31 Jan]	R 4	1/E3
SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS		
Cosmonauts Continue Experiments Aboard Salyut-6 Complex	U 1	1/E4
Good Physical Condition	U 1	1/E4
Briefs: Khabarovskiy Kray Relay Station	U 1	1/E4
MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS		
Foreign Observers Comment on 'Berezina' Maneuvers	V 1	1/E5
Observers Leave Minsk	V 1	1/E5
Report on Exercise [Dmitriyev in TRUD 7 Feb]	V 2	1/E6
Features of Army of Developed Socialist Society Traced [Editorial in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 5 Feb]	V 3	1/E7
Marshal Batitskiy Praises Qualities of Air Defense Forces [PRAVDA 26 Jan]	V 5	1/E9

PrEx 7.10: FBIS-SOV-78-29

FBIS-SOV-78-29
Friday
10 February 1978
Vol III No 29

DAILY REPORT

COMPLETED
ORIGINAL

SOVIET UNION

Available for Distribution
From NTIS

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U.S., USSR SALT DELEGATIONS MEET IN GENEVA 8 FEB

LD081452Y Moscow TASS in English 1441 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 8, TASS--The delegations of the USSR and the USA at the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Talks held another meeting here today.

HUNGARIAN DELEGATE SPEAKS AT GENEVA DISARMAMENT TALKS

LD091844Y Moscow TASS in English 1748 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 9, TASS--A regular plenary meeting of the Disarmament Committee was held here today.

Addressing the meeting, the head of the Hungarian delegation, Ambassador Matyas Domokos, noted that in conditions of a continuing arms race it would be ever more difficult to sustain and strengthen positive trends in international relations. But recognition of the growing danger posed by the arms race gave a powerful impetus to the work of bodies studying questions of disarmament. He stressed that the intensification of talks on disarmament problems was facilitated to a considerable degree by proposals made by the Soviet Union in this field. The Hungarian representative said it was necessary to spread the relaxation of international tension to the military field.

Ambassador Domokos stressed the importance of the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Talks and noted that their successful conclusion will have a positive influence on other fields of disarmament.

The Hungarian representative also voiced confidence in the successful conclusion of talks by three nuclear powers to draft a treaty on the general and compete prohibition of nuclear weapon tests. He stressed that after the conclusion of this treaty it will be necessary for states to tackle the realisation of another Soviet proposal--to stop the manufacture of nuclear weapons and totally liquidate nuclear weapons.

The head of the Hungarian delegation also declared for the conclusion of an all-embracing agreement banning weapons of mass annihilation and greeted the Soviet proposal on the mutual renunciation by states of the production of neutron weapons.

U.S. MILITARY ACTIONS IN FRG CONTRADICT PURPOSE OF MBFR TALKS

LD081516Y Moscow TASS in English 1503 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, February 8, TASS--TASS correspondent Anatoliy Tyupayev reports:

Many regions in Bavaria today resemble a country at war: Columns of tanks and armoured troop carriers, trucks, missile and artillery pieces are moving along the roads and highways. Combat aircraft and helicopters roar by in the sky. Today American Army units started another round of military exercises on the territory of this West German land. It has been officially announced that more than 16,000 men and officers are involved, as well as a great quantity of military hardware, including 7,500 tanks, armoured troop carriers, trucks and other vehicles.

The centres of the "combat operations" are situated in the vicinity of Nurenberg, Bamberg, Coburg, Amberg and other cities.

Observers note that these military exercises, the biggest of all winter manoeuvres so far, are a constituent part of the vast military preparations, constantly carried out by the United States on the territory of a sovereign state--the FRG. Military training of motorized and mechanized tank and artillery units goes on virtually non-stop at the Grafenwer testing grounds, Europe's biggest, situated not far from the border with Czechoslovakia. Squadrons of American Phantom fighter bombers more and more often land at the Bundeswehr's Air Force airports, as they arrive from overseas, to "acquaint the pilots with a possible area of combat operations".

Despite the fact that even today hundreds of thousands of American men and officers take part annually in exercises and manoeuvres in West Germany, President Carter recently announced the intention to increase the strength of American Armed Forces stationed in the FRG. The build-up of the U.S. military presence in Western Europe, the FRG above all, is further augmented by the annual air-lifting of several American Army brigades across the Atlantic air-bridge for participating in manoeuvres in Europe.

Attention is being drawn to the fact that the current demonstration of U.S. military might in Western Europe is taking place at a time when negotiations have been resumed in Vienna on the reciprocal reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe. This activisation of the U.S. military is in obvious contradiction with the purpose of these talks, aimed at strengthening the security of the European Continent, at supplementing political detente with military relaxation. NATO member-countries, the commentators note, apparently do not seek an atmosphere conducive to the success of the Vienna talks.

MUNICH NATO MEETING SEEKS PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR ARMS BUILDUP

LD091445Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent V. Mikhaylov report: "The Catapult and the 'Wonder-Weapon'"]

[Text] Bonn, February--A 2-day NATO "military research session" has been held in the Bavarian capital, Munich. About 100 men participated: generals, politicians and diplomats and especially trusted journalists from the NATO countries.

Haig, the supreme commander in chief of the NATO allied armed forces in Europe, and Woerner, the military expert of West Germany's Conservative Christian Democratic Union [CDU] and also chairman of the Bundestag Defense Commission, sat side by side at the head of the main table. U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense Perry also took part in the conference and was in charge of armament questions. It was these three who "called the tune."

General Haig demanded that the West European states "increase the effectiveness of their armed forces" and their "defense budgets." He spared no coloring in depicting the "Soviet threat," which has allegedly become "even more global and offensive." In reality this old "Soviet threat" stunt was used, as before, to urge on the arms race. U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense Perry said quite frankly: "We must force the Soviet Union to compete with us on our terms."

Those taking part in the conference focused their attention on the elaboration of arguments to justify the continuation of the arms race in the eyes of the West European public and make it possible to impose the neutron bomb and other new types of weapons of mass destruction on Western Europe. CDU military expert Woerner was particularly zealous. He "urgently warned" against abandoning the neutron bomb.

But the neutron bomb alone did not seem enough to him. For "equilibrium," he asserted, it is essential to station "cruise missiles" in Western Europe, too. If this is not done, he cautioned, then "perfidious Russia" will use Western Europe as "a nuclear hostage to pressure the United States."

Neither Woerner, nor Haig nor Perry said a word about the Soviet proposals to halt the arms race. It appears that the representatives of the NATO countries' military-industrial complex fear a positive conclusion of the disarmament talks.

Of course, feelings toward the arms race are quite different in the West European countries. "The prestige of arms is falling," those taking part in the Munich conference complained. They put the blame for this on inadequate "publicity." Evidently, one of the main aims of the Munich gathering was to increase the effectiveness of this "publicity." The intensified attacks by the reactionary press against the opponents of the neutron bomb confirm this.

A new trick has now been devised and implemented. Matters are presented as though the Soviet Union, in voicing opposition to the neutron bomb and the arms buildup, was "exerting pressure" and "interfering" in the FRG's internal affairs. And since that is so, the reactionary politicians and NATO generals are shrieking, "it is essential to deal a rebuff" and to approve the neutron bomb as soon as possible.

In reality the opposite is happening. It was precisely NATO's "military research session" in Munich which constituted massive interference by this aggressive military bloc's ruling clique in the internal affairs of, above all, the FRG. The question of the production of the neutron bomb and its deployment in Western Europe largely depends on the position of the FRG Government. After all, if it comes to a specific decision, then this weapon would have to be located on West German territory. But resistance to such a decision is exceptionally great in the FRG. Essentially it is only the military plant owners and a number of shameless politicians from the CDU/Christian Social Union [CSU] who dream of returning to the cold war who are seizing on the neutron bomb as a life jacket. It is hard to describe the Munich conference and the NATO generals' statements supporting these people and the group which opposes the FRG Government as anything other than flagrant interference in the country's internal affairs and, moreover, interference on the side of the most reactionary forces.

It is characteristic that even at the Munich meeting, where the participants were passed through a good dozen filters, voices of reason were nonetheless heard. Retired West German General Bennecke voiced serious objections to the neutron bomb. He noted that the introduction of this weapon would give rise to retaliatory measures on the part of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries and, at the same time, opposed the widespread opinion here that the neutron bomb is a defensive weapon. It should rather be treated as an aggressive weapon, the general said. The SUDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG writes: "It is hard to ignore Bennecke's imposing arguments against the 'wonder-weapon.'"

...At one session of the West German Bundestag, on the initiative of Social Democratic deputies, a point was included in legislation to the effect that slings and catapults would continue to be included among the weapons requiring a special permit. In justification it was pointed out that pieces of lead or steel ballbearings shot from such a catapult could cause serious mutilation. The Bundestag decided to end the enterprise of the manufacturers of these "toys." Broad circles of the FRG public believe that the time is even riper to say "no" to the apostles of the neutron bomb.

NATO STATES' INCREASING MILITARY EXPENDITURES REPORTED

LD091058Y Moscow TASS in English 0836 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Brussels, February 9, TASS--In 1949 the military spending of NATO countries amounted to 18.4 billion dollars whereas in 1976 it exceeded 155 billion dollars (the military budgets of Greece and Turkey counted out). NATO countries' military spending in 1977, according to data issued here, exceed 165 billion dollars. Belgium spends 3.3 per cent of its domestic national product for military needs, Denmark--2.5, France--3.9, the FRG--3.4, Italy--2.5, Holland--3.3, Norway--3.1, Portugal--3.3, Britain--4.9, Canada--2, and the USA--5.5 per cent. Every resident of European countries of NATO pays (in 1977 in particular) 169 dollars a year for military purposes, on an average, and in the United States of America--391 dollars.

DETENTE SERVES INTERESTS OF EUROPE'S SMALL STATES

LD250823Y Moscow TASS in English 0809 GMT 25 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 25, TASS--Continuation of the policy of detente gives small West European countries a possibility to make a new substantial contribution to consolidation of peace, security and cooperation in the European Continent and in the whole world, writes PRAVDA Vienna correspondent Igor Melnikov.

It promotes their self-assertion in the international scene, establishment of versatile external economic ties, which ensure them, in the final account, a more stable economic position.

Many realistic-minded politicians, statesmen of small West European states, the PRAVDA correspondent writes, highly appreciated the role of the Helsinki forum, which clearly defined that all countries, irrespective of their size and might, should bear responsibility for peace, security and cooperation in the continent. Yet before the signing of the final act, in the course of the second stage of the all-European conference that lasted in Geneva for more than one year and a half, representatives of Finland, Switzerland, Austria, Sweden and a number of other small states actively promoted a search for a constructive compromise, the forum's advance to the ultimate goal.

"Exactly the all-European conference has shown that the small states of our continent also ought to make their contribution to the balancing of the interests of other parties, with their own interests fully observed, stressed Bruno Kreisky, Austria's federal chancellor, in an interview to the PRAVDA correspondent. They will be able to effectively comply with such tasks only in conditions of relaxation of tension."

The federal chancellor noted that the Austrian-Soviet relations in trade and contacts in science and technology accorded with the Helsinki spirit.

Talking to the TASS correspondent, Chairman of the Communist Party of Austria Franz Muhri has said: "Austria in the period of the 1974-75 crisis managed to avoid mass unemployment largely due to its developed economic and trade contacts with socialist states. Orders of socialist states helped ensure employment of almost 150,000 Austrian working people. Moreover, long-term programs, the entire complex of Austria's business cooperation with the world of socialism is based on equality and strict observance of sovereignty. In the relations with the capitalist countries, above all with the leading "Common Market" states; and with the United States, the factor of independence of Austria's economy is often disregarded, and infringed upon".

UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION SESSION OPENS IN GENEVA

LD061428Y Moscow TASS in English 1351 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 6, TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Lopatin reports:

A session of the UN Human Rights Commission opened in the Palace of Nations here today. It is to discuss, as a matter of top priority, violations of human rights in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories and in Chile, as well as the consequences, unfavourable for the observance of human rights, of political, military, economic and other aid given to the colonial and racist regimes in the south of Africa.

The session which is to last till March 10 is also to take up the question of struggle against apartheid and violations of human rights in the south of Africa. It will hear reports by experts and other materials on the inhuman treatment of prisoners in South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe as well as brutal police suppression of peaceful demonstrations against apartheid in South Africa since the time of the massacres in Soweto in June, 1976. Also on the agenda is the right of the peoples to self-determination and the application of this right in respect of the peoples living under colonial and foreign rule.

Zionism, U.S. Indian Policy

LD082034Y Moscow TASS in English 1918 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 8, TASS--The participants in the 34th session of the United Nations Human Rights Commission here started their study of questions of the right of nations to self-determination and the exercise of this right by peoples under colonial or foreign domination, or foreign occupation.

The Syrian representative in the commission Ambassador Dia'allah al-Fattal spoke at today's plenary meeting and sharply criticised the policy of Israel which continues to violate fundamental human rights in captured Arab territories and ignores the right to self-determination of the Arab people of Palestine. He strongly criticised the doctrine of Zionism and pointed out that the Zionist ideology is a crime against mankind. The Syrian representative noted that what is required for the solution of the Middle East problem is a global approach by all interested sides and not partial solutions.

Jimmy Deerham, observer from United Nations nongovernment organizations, spoke on the question of the right of nations to self-determination and drew the attention of commission members to the plight of Indians in the United States.

The United States is pursuing a policy of annihilating the native Indian population, he stressed. Whereas 12 million Indians lived on the territory of the United States in precolumbian times, now only about a million remain. 30 per cent of Indian women have been sterilised on orders of the American authorities. From 25 to 30 per cent of Indian children are forcibly moved from their homes to families of other nationality. Indians live in dire poverty and are given the most arduous and dirty jobs. The average life expectancy of an Indian is much less than that of a white. 75 per cent of all Indians suffer from constant malnutrition and the average annual income of an Indian family is extremely low.

PROCEEDINGS OF UN PREPARATORY DISARMAMENT SESSION REPORTED

LD081342Y Moscow TASS in English 1115 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 8, TASS--To put an end to the arms race, to back the new initiatives aimed at banning nuclear weapons and other types of mass annihilation weapons, to secure a positive turn in disarmament--such are the demands of the overwhelming majority of representatives of the U.N. member-states, participants of the deliberations that took place these days in the preparatory committee for calling a special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament.

Ion Datcu, the permanent representative of Romania at the United Nations, expressed the hope that the special session would promote more active disarmament negotiations. He stressed that the final documents of the session should include not only guiding principles of disarmament, but also a programme of actions to achieve general and complete disarmament, above all, nuclear disarmament.

"The special session of the United Nations General Assembly, said the Indian representative M.A. Vellodi, must become the turning point in the efforts to achieve real disarmament."

The Indian representative expressed regret that China refused stubbornly to take part in the disarmament negotiations.

Speaking on behalf of a big group of nonaligned states, the representative of Sri Lanka I. Fonseka noted that in recent years the "international situation changed to the better and the 'cold war' was replaced by recognition of the ideas of peaceful coexistence". In these conditions, he said, achievement of considerable progress in the sphere of disarmament has became the "call of our times".

Representatives of certain Western states spoke up in general terms for the suspension of the arms race.

At the same time, as noted here, the delegations of the NATO countries are keeping absolutely mum about the recent proposals of the Soviet Union to reach agreement on the simultaneous ending by all states of the production of every type of nuclear weapons, whether atomic, hydrogen or neutron, along with a commitment of the nuclear powers to start the gradual reduction of the existing stockpiles of nuclear weapons, up to and including their complete liquidation. It is believed in the United Nations circles that the implementation of the Soviet proposals would be of great significance for the establishment of a lasting peace.

China holds an obstructionist stand in questions of disarmament, comes out against the easing of international tensions and is striving to torpedo the efforts to curb the arms race.

Soviet Working Document

LD042231Y Moscow TASS in English 1839 GMT 4 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 4 TASS--The USSR delegation in the preparatory committee for the convocation of the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament has circulated a working document concerning preparations of this international forum. In the opinion of the Soviet delegation, it is necessary to formulate the principles that would serve as the basis for talks and decisions on disarmament and on questions of containing the arms race.

The arms race limitation, the document says, requires constant efforts of the world community for solving of this topical task. The Soviet Union has taken of late a number of new steps in this direction.

The document says that in the year of its 60th anniversary, the Soviet state made a call to all states to agree on simultaneous ending by all states of the production of nuclear weapons, be it atomic, hydrogen or neutron bombs and missiles. On December 24, 1977, giving answers to questions of PRAVDA's correspondent, the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev on behalf of the Soviet Union suggested to Western states to reach agreement on mutually refraining from the production of the neutron bomb so as to save the world from the emergence of this new weapon of mass destruction. The USSR delegation expressed the hope that these proposals will be taken into consideration during the working out of the final documents of the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament.

UN NONALINED STATES NOTE NEED TO CURB ARMS RACE

LD091130Y Moscow TASS in English 0909 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 8, TASS--TASS correspondent Vladimir Matyash reports:

The peoples' will for peace and for consolidation of the relaxation of international tensions manifested itself in documents which were prepared by a number of non-aligned states in connection with the forthcoming convocation of the U.N. General Assembly's special conference on disarmament. The conference is to be held in May-June this year. It is clear from the documents that an overwhelming majority of U.N. member-states declare in support of ending the arms race and achieving disarmament. The documents also give a favourable appraisal of the Soviet Union's and other peace-loving countries' peace initiatives aimed at curbing the arms race.

A document submitted to the United Nations by the Government of Pakistan emphasizes that the existence of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, remain a threat to mankind's existence.

The Government of Senegal expressed a serious concern in view of the mounting danger which the unbridled arms race constitutes to mankind. In our days the arms race which manifests itself first of all in the expansion of the arsenals of nuclear weapons, the risk of mankind's self-destruction has been enhanced as never before, says the document submitted by the Government of Senegal.

The Government of Venezuela pointed to the ruinous consequences of the arms race for the economic and social development of peoples and in particular for the security and well-being of mankind as a whole. Venezuela, the government of that country points out, condemns and rejects the arms race and comes out for achieving concrete results in the area of disarmament.

"The build-up of armaments, particularly nuclear ones, not only fails to promote stronger international security but also weakens and undermines it, the government of Mexico emphasized in a document which it submitted to the United Nations. The huge stocks of the weapons and their continual qualitative and technical improvement constitute a tremendous threat to peace". [quotation marks as received]

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL ON AS-SADAT'S U.S. VISIT

U.S. Orientation Toward Israel

LD100716Y Moscow TASS in English 0702 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 10, TASS--In carrying out its far-reaching plans, Washington does not refuse to use the services of those who are willing to play its game but has no intention of making any "sacrifices" by way of gratitude, PRAVDA writes commenting on the results of the Egyptian president's visit to the USA. Having egged on As-Sadat to separate actions which raised new obstacles in the way of a real settlement in the Middle East, the United States does not hurry to his assistance, the newspaper says.

The mirages of "peace initiatives" are clearing and it is becoming obvious that while encouraging these or other Arab leaders to split the united front of the victims of aggression and to conclude separate deals with the aggressor, the ruling circles of the USA are not at all going to stop orienting themselves to Israel as the main outpost of their policy in the Middle East.

As-Sadat's 'Capitulatory' Role

LD091746Y Moscow TASS in English 1712 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

["Contradictions Are Growing Sharper"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, February 9 TASS--Egyptian President A. as-Sadat's visit to the United States is over. In its statement on the results of this visit the White House sets forth the position of the USA. It says that the USA wants an all-embracing peaceful settlement in the Middle East that would ensure the establishment of normal peaceful relations between Israel and its neighbours.

In this connection the statement says that the United States remains faithful to its commitment to support Israel's security and the right of every state in the area to live in conditions of peace within secure and recognized frontiers. As is known, the United States' idea of "secure and recognized frontiers" implies the possibility of Israel taking over some of the Arab territories which it occupied in 1967. The White House statement refers to the Security Council resolutions providing for the withdrawal of Israeli Armed Forces from the areas occupied in 1967, but with the above-mentioned American reservation concerning the frontiers. As to the Palestine problem the statement contains general points on the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people but glosses over the concrete issue of establishing a Palestinian state and participation of the PLO in the Middle East settlement.

President J. Carter confirmed, the statement says, that the Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories contravene international law and that the further building of such settlements by Israel would be incompatible with attempts to reach a peaceful settlement.

Political observers here say that in its statement the White House made no mention of the question of convocation of the Geneva peace conference on the Middle East and that the matter is reduced to establishing peaceful relations between Israel and every one of its neighbours, or in other words, to separate talks which have always been favoured by Israel.

The American press quotes excerpts from a statement by Israeli Prime Minister Begin, who is going to the United States for a meeting with J. Carter. Speaking at a press conference in Geneva, M. Begin said that Israel would never agree to the establishment of a

Palestinian state and that the Palestinians were Israel's irreconcilable enemy. He said that Israel would refuse as before to liquidate settlements in the occupied Arab territories and that he would keep in force the plan for establishing within the next few months new settlements on the western bank of the River Jordan.

American newspapers also quote the statement made by A. as-Sadat before American senators. In this statement he stressed once again his capitulatory role and actually came out against an overall settlement of the Middle East problem. He assured the American senators that without Egypt the other Arab countries could not confront Israel and that he, As-Sadat, would not use arms against Israel if he received them from the United States.

It is noteworthy that in his statement As-Sadat, even according to American press reports, evidently overdid it when he wanted to assure the senators that the Middle East and Africa were jeopardized by the growth of Soviet influence and that this was the factor which imperiled the interests of the American oil monopolies.

In connection with this statement the American newspapers say that As-Sadat, who has gone very far in his actions against the Arab peoples, now hopes to secure in the USA if only outward support for his capitulatory policy vis-a-vis Israel and thus try to justify his separate policy aimed at accepting the American-Israeli solution to the Middle East problem.

Shift to 'Secret Talks'

LD091600Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1230 GMT 9 Feb 78

[Text] The Egyptian President has ended his visit to the United States, and a joint statement on the visit has been issued. One should review the results of his visit in light of its objectives.

The visit began with the usual resounding propaganda campaign. In an atmosphere of secrecy, and discretion newsmen were prevented from covering the talks between Carter and As-Sadat. True, the talks were not expected to produce surprises, but observers unanimously enphasized that the Carter-As-Sadat encounter was taking place at an extremely grave time, when the peace moves of the Egyptian president--as they are described in the West--had failed. As-Sadat's moves have failed and proved to be sterile. To judge by newspaper reports, the main objective of the visit boiled down to a request to put pressure on Israel to induce it to make some concessions to Egypt.

Judging by the joint statement on the visit, and from the rare information leaked to the American press, the visit has had the opposite effect. Although he promised to advise Israel to show a greater deal of flexibility, Carter refused to play the role of fair arbitrator. Once again he declared that Egypt must make concessions.

Now the question is how significant is this American position? To answer this question, one should mention first that during As-Sadat's visit to Washington there was an overt confrontation between the national interests of the Arab peoples and Zionism. This was admitted by As-Sadat himself, who said: Zionism has refused to make concessions. This admission in itself dashed the myth about As-Sadat's "bold moves."

Soon after tributes were paid in the press to As-Sadat's "bold moves," Israel made it clear that its strategic position remains as before. Israel categorically refuses to abandon the Jewish settlements it has set up, even those in the Sinai Peninsula. Israel refuses to withdraw from the Golan Heights, to solve the problem of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and occupied Jerusalem. Israel refuses to recognize the right of the Arab Palestinian people to self-determination. In such conditions, and not for the first time, As-Sadat banked on Washington, and again he made a mistake. Despite all this, one could say that the visit of the Egyptian president suggests that a decisive point has been reached with regard to the situation in the Middle East. As-Sadat's diplomacy, conducted to the

beat of a drum, has failed to push the question of a solution to the Middle East problem out of its stalemate. On the contrary, it has made the issue more complicated. There has been a shift to secret talks and contacts behind the scenes.

Although it does not change anything, it is more to the liking of imperialist circles of the West, because it opens up more scope for hatching conspiracies behind closed doors and for more securely binding Egypt to a precise political line, not only with regard to the Middle East but also at the international level.

It is no coincidence that As-Sadat received an invitation to visit a number of Western capitals. This is indicated by the reaffirmation in the joint statement that the views of the United States and Egypt coincide in connection with the situation prevailing in the region of the Horn of Africa, where Cairo was put in the dubious role of protecting the interests of imperialism. As-Sadat's visit to Washington, and his diplomatic campaign, have clearly confirmed that no separate deal, and no quiet, separate diplomacy is likely to solve the problem of the Middle East. As the Soviet Union declared, only joint efforts by all states party to the conflict in the Middle East, those directly involved in the battle to bring about peace in the Middle East, can solve the problem.

U.S.-ISRAELI DIFFERENCES OVER SETTLEMENTS REPORTED

LD100144Y Moscow in English to North American 2230 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] The State Department has issued a chronology of messages from President Carter to Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, in which the United States President called Tel Aviv's settlements on the occupied Arab lands illegal and an obstacle to negotiations. In January alone there were three such messages. Our observer, Igor Dmitriyev, has this comment:

According to President Carter, Menahem Begin promised him last summer not to authorize new settlements in the West Bank of the Jordan. Officially there are 36 such settlements on the occupied Arab lands; unofficially the figure is 45. Carter's messages were sent in response to plans announced by militant Jews to expand an archaeological site at Shiloh. This is an excuse to build another settlement, because the site had been fully excavated 30 years ago. Israel claims it is living up to its promise. On his very first day in the United States, Foreign Minister Dayan emphatically denied the accusation that Tel Aviv had reneged on its pledge not to create new settlements. He added that although civilians are moving to live in some military outposts Israel has on the occupied lands, his country nevertheless abides by its commitments.

Now who is telling the truth, the administration or Israeli officials? Or perhaps it is newspaper columnist Joseph Kraft, who claimed that the administration had raised no great protests about new settlements. This issue is now hotly debated in the United States mass media: Who said what, and who promised what last summer? This hair-splitting over how to define a new settlement, their overall number and the like is said to be a big scandal, but the fact remains that the settlements are there, and Mr Begin keeps saying Israel has a right to keep them there. Israel captured that land by force with the help of American weapons, and it won't vacate these lands, because it knows it is strong and will become even stronger with America's assistance. And Tel Aviv couldn't care less about what the administration is saying to present itself as an impartial mediator in the Middle East. That same administration pledges to honor its historic commitment to Israel, and these special relationships are bound to keep Israel where it is right now.

Going back to those heated arguments about Israel's settlements, I'd like to draw your attention to an important detail. Foreign Minister Dayan, who stated that what the administration is saying is not true, said it before a big Jewish gathering on his first day in the United States. In my view, he was not only addressing that audience but was speaking to the Jewish lobby in Washington. It is known for its ability to overwhelm any administration in matters involving Israel, and it's irrelevant whether what it does is good or bad for America. I don't know whether it makes Americans fidget to see a foreigner climb on a rostrum and, over the head of the administration, appeal to the Jewish lobby, who have power, money, political connections and news outlets, to influence the policy of their government. Outside America, this is not common.

'CONTRADICTORY' U.S. ARMS POLICY CAUSES 'SERIOUS CONCERN'

LD100700Y Moscow TASS in English 0650 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 10, TASS--TASS commentator Gennadiy Ziborov writes:

United States Defence Secretary Harold Brown announced the Pentagon's annual report on the 1977 financial year. According to the report, the United States' military spending will continue growing rapidly and will reach in the 1979 financial year the record sum of nearly 130 billion dollars. Alleging that the potentials of the Soviet Union's strategic offensive and defence forces will be growing, Brown declares for continued development and ever-wider deployment of the new types of deadly weapons, including the "MX" intercontinental ballistic missiles, cruise missiles, "Trident" submarines and missiles. Allocations for the armed forces will be increased by 13 percent. At the same time the Pentagon exerts efforts to start mass production of such cruel mass destruction weapon as the neutron bomb, which the enemies of detente intend to deploy in NATO forces in Western Europe.

All this cannot but cause serious concern, which is a justifiable concern ever more so since it is obvious that the United States conducts a double-faced policy, an inconsistent and contradictory policy. On the one hand Washington speaks in favour of deepening detente, of improving U.S.-Soviet relations; on the other hand certain circles in the United States are stepping up the arms race under the pressure of the military-industrial complex. On the one hand Washington declares that it is for the successful conclusion of SALT-II; on the other hand the U.S. Department of Defence is clearly staking on production and deployment of new types of weapons, including strategic ones. On the one hand the United States has signed the Helsinki final act; and on the other the United States is insisting that its West European partners in NATO should make ever new "contributions" to the military machine of the bloc, which, naturally, does not promote detente in Europe. How can these obvious contradictions of the political course go together?

This is a legitimate question, since it is well known that President Carter, setting out the election programme, stressed many times that the United States policy must not go along the dangerous lines of the arms race. And now, a year since then, this course which would, undoubtedly, meet the interests of detente is being replaced, as Harold Brown's report clearly shows, by quite a different course, by a different political line, the dangerous line at spiralling the arms race, which is covered up by allegations about nonexistent "Soviet menace."

Does not this mean that the United States foreign policy is now being increasingly shaped by the Pentagon? This is reasonably asked by many, including Western analysts. In view of Harold Brown's report, how can one assess the section in the President's recent State of the Union Message in which it is said that the United States is striving to conclude with the Soviet Union agreements on arms limitation which will promote security and stability in different areas of the world?

It is perfectly obvious that the course at detente, at goodneighbourliness and cooperation, the course that is supported in Washington at least in words is incompatible with the arms race. It is also obvious that the atmosphere of trust between states, in this case between the USA and the USSR, cannot be consolidated if one of the sides, namely the United States, is staking on production of ever-new types of mass destruction weapons that are clearly directed against the other side, the Soviet Union.

As to the Soviet Union's position, it was and remains unchanged. As it was stressed by the 25th CPSU Congress, the struggle for ending the arms race, for disarmament, is one of the main directions of the foreign policy activity of the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government. After World War II, the Soviet Union made over one hundred proposals aimed at curbing the arms race, at banning nuclear weapons. Answering questions of PRAVDA's correspondent at the end of last year, Leonid Brezhnev said that the main thing now is to proceed from talks on disarmament to real steps signifying the beginning of disarmament.

It is precisely such steps that are awaited by international public from the United States. And the calls for stepping up the arms race that are made by the Pentagon are clearly at variance with the spirit of the time, with the interests of detente.

NEVADA TRAINING CENTER STAGES 'PROVOCATIVE MILITARY GAMES'

LD091616Y Moscow TASS in English 1606 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 9, TASS--TASS commentator Yuriy Trushin writes:

The illustrated weekly PARADE, which comes out in New York, has reported that the personnel of the U.S. Air Force has been trained in Nevada State for two years now "in bombing targets in the territory of the Soviet Union" and in other member-countries of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation. This "training centre" has two squadrons of Air Force planes with Soviet identification markings, and these are piloted by American fliers dressed in Soviet uniforms. This unit is commanded by a special headquarters with the signboard "aggressor" at its entrance. The same word is embroidered on the uniforms of the fliers who, the magazine reports, are studying the Russian language and Soviet Army rules and regulations. In the area of the "training centre" there are life-size dummy plants, administrative buildings and bridges, so that the fliers, the Pentagon's "trainees", could drop bombs on them.

The Pentagon "war hawks" are playing provocative military games in Nevada and even popularize them through a mass-circulation magazine. This is evidently being done in order to frighten once more the man in the street with the mythical "Soviet menace" and point to the soldier dressed in the Soviet uniform: Here he is, the aggressor...

And the "aggressor" was hired and paid by the Pentagon whose budget for 1979 envisages a further build-up of military preprations against the socialist states.

U.S. TALKS WITH ROK TO EFFACE 'BRIBERY SCANDAL'

LD091404Y Moscow TASS in English 1350 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

["Justice Will Have To Retreat"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, February 9, TASS--Efforts are being continued on the Capitol Hill to efface the scandal connected with the exposure of bribery of U.S. legislators by the South Korean regime agents.

It was proclaimed in Congress on Wednesday that U.S. aid to South Korea should not be used as "bargaining counter" to pressure the Seoul Government. It was stated that American interests in the region are connected exceptionally with U.S. national security interests. What prompted such a statement?

During the questioning of Pak Tong-son, the chief character of the scandal, in Seoul, it turned out that U.S. legislators accepted monetary and other bribes not only from him but also from other emissaries of Seoul. Thus the scope of machinations by Kim Dong-cho, former ambassador of South Korea in Washington, even exceeded the successes of Pak Tong-son, who posed as a rice trader.

Fearing that the arrival Kim Dong-son in the USA for questioning will only whip up the scandal and will lead to new disclosures, the U.S. side hurried to give up the threats which were pronounced only recently to reduce U.S. military and other aid if the Seoul puppet becomes obstinate and does not send its agents to Washington to clear up relations.

Now everything falls into place. The Americans would like to bury in oblivion the results of the disclosure of the disgraceful ways of political life in the USA. Seoul dreams of calming Washington down so that it forgets about the roughness between old allies and continues to render aid. Pak Chong-hui is well aware that were it not for U.S. money and bayonets, the days of his anti-national regime would have been numbered.

As for justice, this is not the first case when American justice has to retreat under the authorities' pressure.

WEST GERMAN REPORT SAYS LIU SHAO-CHI 'IN GOOD HEALTH'

OW091618Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 8 Feb 78 OW

[Text] The West German weekly, DER SPIEGEL, reports that although Hong Kong's TA KUNG PAO reported 3 years ago that Liu Shao-chi, former chairman of the People's Republic of China who was overthrown during the Cultural Revolution, had died, West Germany's ambassador to China, Wickert, said last week that a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman told him that Liu Shao-chi is still alive and in good health.

PRC SIDES 'ONCE AND FOR ALL' WITH IMPERIALISM, REACTION

LD091013Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 5 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[Article by observer Yuriy Trushin: "Peking Zigzags"]

[Text] The processes which determine the Peking leadership's current foreign policy--reorientation toward the imperialist world, an effective switch to positions of outright reactionary monopoly capital and a peace-endangering course toward exacerbating international tension and intensifying military confrontation--are wholeheartedly welcomed by Western imperialist circles and by Western propaganda organs.

The American magazines NEWSWEEK, TIME and U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT and the newspapers Washington POST, New York TIMES and others have recently devoted dozens of analytical articles to Peking diplomacy. The authors of the articles go out of their way to justify Peking's political zigzags and its desire to obtain Western military equipment and technology. In advocating a U.S. "liberal policy" on this question, especially regarding sales of American computer equipment to Peking, the authors of these articles are most impressed by "the Peking leaders' hostile position toward the Soviet Union." This was openly stated, for example, in an interview for the magazine FOREIGN AFFAIRS by D. Barnett, China specialist and leading associate of the Brookings Institution, which has close links with the administration.

The New York TIMES names as petitioners for closer U.S. military ties with Peking and for deliveries of American military equipment to Peking a number of assistant secretaries and presidential advisers and also several dozen generals--the Pentagon "think tank" as the American press calls them--who are in fact expressing the aspirations of the U.S. military-industrial complex.

Noting the activation of the pro-Peking lobby in the United States, the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR wrote that Washington has already begun a "study" of the question of selling underwater acoustic equipment, radar installation components, jet engines and communication satellites to Peking. Add to this American press reports that a consignment of transport aircraft and computers previously obtained by Peking from the United States can "easily be adapted for military purposes."

News agency reports on Peking diplomatic missions' visits to EEC capitals indicate that Peking is interested not in developing trade in general but chiefly in acquiring strategic military goods. For example, during a recent visit to Britain a delegation headed by PRC Foreign Trade Minister Li Chiang was present at trials of the Harrier fighter which Peking intends to buy. L'HUMANITE writes that Peking trade missions have shown a heightened interest in France's achievements in nuclear research and radioelectronics. [paragraph continues]

The FRG press has written much about the Peking ambassador in Bonn establishing "close contacts" with major West German military-industrial concerns, including Messerschmitt-Boelkow-Bohm. The overt, militarist direction of Peking's foreign policy and diplomacy enjoys the full approval and support of Western imperialist circles. The fact that Peking has supported and is supporting NATO and those forces interested in prolonging the arms race suits these same circles completely. In fact, the Peking leaders' diplomacy and propaganda plainly and unreservedly recommend war as the main method of solving international problems. The Peking leaders have openly told their foreign guests that they deplore the fact that a trend toward arms reduction has appeared in Europe under the influence of the peace-loving policy of the Soviet Union and the European socialist countries. Peking propaganda urges the West to increase its arsenals of nuclear weapons and is trying to relieve the United States of all responsibility for placing obstacles in the way of the detente process.

Peking's negative attitude toward the problems of detente and disarmament was demonstrated with particular clarity in connection with the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries during the last UN General Assembly session. The Peking representative at the United Nations did not support a single Soviet proposal aimed at slackening the arms race. As is known, Peking has not yet signed a single agreement prohibiting the use of many modern types of mass-destruction weapons. Instead, it is actively seeking to preserve a state of tension and the arms race. A single example is enough to expose Peking diplomacy's "love of peace" once and for all. All people resolutely condemn the plans of the Pentagon and Western militarist circles to launch U.S. production of neutron bombs and deploy them in Western Europe. People of good will in all countries are coming out with increasing vigor in support of a ban on the neutron bomb. But what about the Peking "sages"? Their chief propaganda mouthpieces--PEOPLES DAILY and NCNA--are making vile attacks on the Soviet proposal to the United States on reaching an understanding on mutual renunciation of the production of this barbaric weapon and are saying that it is "not so bad."

At the end of January official talks began in Brussels between the EEC and China on concluding a long-term trade agreement. It was initialed yesterday, the press reports. EEC officials have admitted that this agreement goes beyond the confines of pure commerce and has a definite political significance.

Peking has long been aiming at rapprochement with the EEC, but trade is only an adroit cover for its far-reaching political aims. The Maoists are expecting, with the EEC's help, to widen the front of their struggle against the forces of peace and progress, against the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries and their peace-loving policy. The agreement concluded is a further stage in Peking's formation of a bloc with West European reaction. It envisages granting China "most-favored-nation status." This means that Peking will have access to "strategic commodities" whose export to the socialist countries is prohibited. The term "strategic commodities" usually means military equipment and technology. This is what Peking is stealthily seeking with its new diplomacy. This is why it is ready to support the aggressive plans of the NATO bosses, to reiterate the imperialists' slanderous allegations about an imaginary "Soviet threat" and even to surpass them in its malicious attacks on the Soviet Union.

In its indefatigable attempts to aggravate the international situation and provoke armed conflicts Peking has once and for all sided with the forces of imperialism, reaction, fascist dictatorships and opponents of detente and is entering into open alliances with them. Peking's "new diplomacy" is pursuing the same old great-power, hegemonic aims of the enemies of peace and progress.

CHINA WARNED AGAINST ENCOURAGING, SEEKING NEUTRON BOMB

LD091109Y Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 2 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[NOVOSTI-attributed B. Ivanov article: "In the Name of Chauvinist Goals"]

[Text] In creating the neutron bomb U.S. military-industrial circles have threatened the most valuable possession of our civilization--man--and the most important human right--the right to life. It is not surprising, therefore, that the very broadest masses throughout the world have risen to struggle against the new monstrous means of destroying people and all life on earth.

But what is the Chinese leadership's position on this vitally important question? It does not even remotely protest against the U.S. manufacture of the neutron bomb or object to the equipping of the NATO armies in Europe with the new mass-destruction weapon. Chinese officials and the Peking mass media have not uttered a single word in condemnation of these criminal intentions of aggressive, imperialist circles or mentioned a single word concerning the powerful wave of anti-neutron bomb protests which has swept the whole world.

Peking evidently supposes that the deployment of the neutron bomb in Europe will help the Chinese leadership implement its plans of exacerbating relations between, on the one hand, the USSR and the other socialist countries and, on the other hand, the remaining European countries: That is, that it will promote confrontation on the European continent. This is all necessary for the Peking leaders to prove their well-known postulate that the USSR "is feinting in the East but is menacing the West" in order to make some European states "its temporary allies."

The Chinese newspaper PEOPLE'S DAILY of 21 September 1977 front-paged a poem by Chang Ai-ping, deputy chief of the general staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. It goes as follows: "Steel alloy is not tough. The neutron bomb is particularly so because the people's talents were applied to science and technology. For them any summit in the world is not a summit." This doggerel of a high-ranking Chinese officer was published at a time when, on the one hand, Pentagon and NATO hawks were making every effort to laud the neutron bomb as some kind of "miracle weapon" and, on the other hand, the masses throughout the world were mounting a protest movement against it. It follows logically from this that the Peking leaders not only do not object to the appearance of the neutron monster but would not mind having it in their own arsenal.

The 11th CCP Congress in August 1977 stated outright the inevitability of world war and the need to intensify preparations for it. Afterward the Chinese press began to spur on the arms race, primarily with regard to nuclear missiles.

Nuclear test explosions are held regularly in China. Direct military expenditure there amounts to 41.5 percent of state budget allocations, about half being spent on nuclear missiles. Four conferences were held recently in Peking to discuss questions of equipping the army with new kinds of weapons and the problems of modernizing the military industry. Peking Radio has stated that expenditure for war is henceforth to be increased.

The Peking ruling clique's course of virtually encouraging "neutron death" essentially contradicts the interests of all people, including the Chinese people. It is fraught with equal dangers for China itself. [paragraph continues]

For those who today favor the creation of the neutron bomb offer no kind of guarantee that it will be used solely in Europe. In any event the Peking leaders should remember that the neutron bomb is designed first and foremost to destroy huge masses of people living in densely populated territory. And they should never forget the wise Chinese proverb about the man who lifted a stone, only to drop it on his own foot.

PRC'S PROPAGANDA MANIPULATIONS TRY TO COVER 'CRIMINAL POLICY'

LD061900Y Moscow TASS in English 1809 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

["The 'Class Logic' of Maoists"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 6 TASS--TASS political commentator Vladimir Goncharov writes:

Juggling of facts and rude distortion of their essence is a routine practice of Peking propaganda. But the propaganda manipulations of the Maoists are especially cynical when they try to whitewash their antipopular policy by references to Marxist theory and fill their anti-Soviet, antisocialist statements with pseudorevolutionary phrases.

Typical in this respect is a recent editorial article in the army newspaper CHIEH FANG CHUN PAO [LIBERATION ARMY DAILY], that was reprinted by several other main Chinese newspapers. Urging the intensification of China's militarisation, this article tries to substantiate this policy by references to the need of "conducting class struggle." "The army", the article says, "is the main weapon both in class struggle inside the country and in class struggle in the international arena."

But against whom do the Maoists want to conduct this struggle? Maybe against the bourgeois elements that are quite comfortable to this day in contemporary China or against international imperialist forces?

Nothing of the sort. It follows from the article that the present Peking leaders regard the army not only as a means of liquidating their political rivals--followers of the "group of four" but also as an instrument of suppressing by means of violence the resistance of Chinese working people to Maoist policies.

As to foreign policy aims, generally known facts show that the Chinese leaders do not regard imperialists as their class enemy. On the contrary, they constantly urge them to intensify the arms race, to strengthen positions in Western Europe and Southeast Asia, in Africa and in the Middle East.

In accordance with this amazing "class logic" Chinese propagandists miraculously change the aggressive NATO bloc into a "bulwark of peace", the leader of the West German reactionaries and militarists Strauss into a "progressive," while the butcher of the Chilean people Pinochet is portrayed by them almost as a revolutionary.

Proceeding from the very same "class approach", the Maoists call on the capitalist countries of Europe to unite into a "single front" against socialism, and describe the Soviet Union, the world's first state of working people founded by the great Lenin, as the "enemy number one".

It is not the first time and, obviously, not the last one that the Maoists are trying to cover up their criminal policy with pseudorevolutionary phraseology, to cover up the betrayal by the PRC leaders of the cause of socialism and their collaboration with the most belligerent forces of world reaction. But who can be deceived by such camouflage? The Chinese themselves have a saying, "never take a wolf for a sheep and arsenic for sugar."

MAOIST DOMESTIC, FOREIGN POLICY UNCHANGED DESPITE NEW SLOGANS

LD061617Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[TASS report: "The Maoist Policy Impasse"]

[Text] Budapest, 2 February--The newspaper NEPZABADSAG, the central organ of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, has published an article about the present situation in China.

Since the death of Mao Tse-tung, especially in the period following the 11th CCP Congress which took place last summer, responsibility for all errors and failures in China has been attributed to the "gang of four", and endeavors are being made to drive the supporters of the "four" from all levels of leadership. At the same time, NEPSZABADSAG writes, instead of the "great upheavals" which were proclaimed in the years of the "Cultural Revolution," appeals are being made for the establishment of "universal order" in the country.

The present Chinese leadership, which has been waging a constant power struggle since Mao's death, sees precisely this as the way out of the difficult situation in which the country finds itself. In this connection it is making certain amendments to Maoist policy.

After the "four" were removed from power, responsibility for all Maoism's errors and crimes was ascribed to this "gang". At the same time a number of slogans and measures to restore order, improve the economy, and put production in order were proclaimed in China, and talks are being held on raising the living standard of the population.

The question arises: How are these measures to be assessed? Are they really the start of a radical change of policy or is it only a switch of signboards?

Some people assert that genuine changes can currently be observed in China, and these are leading to a return to socialism in line with the specific national features of China.

However, Maoism is not even a "deviation" from Marxism-Leninism, NEPSZABADSAG writes, and Maoist ideology is not a scientific theory of the working class but a mixture of petty bourgeois ideas which are alien and hostile to scientific socialism.

The boastful proclamation of a slogan that "by the end of the century the PRC will have achieved the level of the developed countries," is not enough to eliminate the Chinese economic crisis. What is essential for this is a profound and self-critical analysis of economic policy, the renunciation of Maoist dogmas and realistic planning which considers existing possibilities. However, the present Peking leaders make no attempt to discover the actual reasons for failures and downfalls, and they do not even have a realistic economic development program.

It is impossible to lead the country out of the Maoist labyrinth if the efforts of the present Peking leadership continue to be aimed at establishing Chinese dominance throughout the world and if colossal appropriations, which are ravaging the country, are channeled as before toward transforming the army into an instrument for achieving great-power chauvinist goals. China will not emerge from the impasse if its leaders continue to form alliances with the most reactionary forces and with the imperialist powers designed to split the community of socialist countries and undermine the unity of the international communist movement.

Unfortunately Peking is in fact continuing precisely this policy. Recent evidence of this course is China's support for the Cambodian leaders' aggressive adventure against socialist Vietnam.

Everything indicates that Mao's death and the elimination of the "four" from power have not led to a renunciation of the Maoist course and great power aspirations. China is seeking to continue the Maoist line.

The power struggle in China is still not over. While one wing in the leadership is seeking the rapid rehabilitation of the so-called pragmatists and the elimination of the "extremists," the other wing is seeking to retard this process. And a struggle is now developing between the representatives of these two trends.

TV PROGRAM EXAMINES MAOIST COURSE OF PRC LEADERSHIP

LD061057Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[A. Krushinskiy report: "In the Language of Documents"]

[Text] Almost 18 months have elapsed since the new leadership came to power in Peking. Have any changes occurred during this time in life in China or in the CCP's domestic and foreign policy? These questions, which are linked to a considerable extent with the problems of strengthening world peace and security, arouse lively interest among the Soviet people. It is natural, therefore, that the three-part program "Mao's Heirs" prepared by central television (leader A. Kaverznev) attracted broad attention.

Using a number of typical television means of expression, the authors of the broadcast examined calmly, thoroughly and with sympathy for the PRC working people various aspects of present-day Chinese reality: the fierce struggle for power, the approach of the new Peking leaders to domestic issues and their foreign policy actions. The objective facts confirm that, for all their absurdity, the antipopular and antisocialist concepts of Mao Tse-tung have been adopted by his heirs. The entire "pragmatism" of the new leaders is limited to attempts to somehow patch up the economy, culture and public education, which had been disorganized by the tyranny of the "great helmsman." But the aims are unchanged disregarding the working people's low living standards, to carry out the country's militarization in the name of the Maoists' hegemonist aspirations and to oppose the process of international detente.

The conclusion drawn from these programs is a natural one: The Maoist course inherited by the present Peking leadership is profoundly alien to the fundamental national interests of the Chinese people--interests which certainly do not lie in the channel of militarist psychosis and the fanning of enmity toward neighboring states but on the path of creative labor, peace and friendship with other peoples.

PRAVDA CARRIES KOSYGIN SPEECH AT DINNER FOR KREISKY

LD100931Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report on 7 February speech by A.N. Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, at Grand Kremlin Palace dinner for Austrian Chancellor B. Kreisky]

[Text] Allow me on behalf of the Soviet Government to sincerely welcome you, Mr Federal Chancellor, and all the Austrian representatives present here.

You represent a country whose historic destiny could not remain a matter of indifference for our people in view of our geographic proximity. We realize that the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Austrian Republic occurs this year. All these years the Soviet Union has invariably advocated the development of neighborly relations with Austria and its peaceful independent development. It was indeed the Soviet Union which condemned Austria's Anschluss with Hitlerite Germany from the very beginning and appealed for the adoption of collective measures against this act of violence and tyranny. The Soviet Union also initiated the idea of concluding a state treaty which restored independence to the Austrian Republic and provided the opportunity to develop as a neutral state.

We assess highly the fact that since the sgining of the state treaty in 1975 our bilateral relations have constantly developed in an ascending line. This is expressed in the strengthening of interstate contacts, the collaboration of our countries in the international arena and in our expanding trade and scientific and technical cooperation. Soviet-Austrian trade has increased more than 20-fold in this time and now totals about R600 million. Austria is now among our 10 leading partners in Europe. Our cultural, tourist and other ties are expanding rapidly.

At the same time, as our current talks show, neither country intends to stop at what has been achieved. The task of insuring dynamic cooperation meeting the demands of the times requires constant attention in the search for new forms and promising new fields. Therefore we attach great importance to the expansion of political consultations, to the development of a treaty basis for our relations and to joint participation in long-term projects including on a compensatory basis, establishment of industrial production-sharing and cooperation in the markets of third countries. It is also important to us to insure that relations between our countries develop in an atmosphere of growing trust and mutual understanding. Truthful, objective information about life and events in our countries are of considerable importance in this matter. Our relations should serve positive aims and not the cultivation of outdated ideas and prejudices.

On behalf of the entire Soviet leadership and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the Communist Party's Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, I would like to stress that the policy of friendship and all-round cooperation with Austria remains our principled long term policy. Austria's reciprocal efforts along this path will always meet with our understanding and support.

The relaxation of international tension has opened broad avenues for vigorous activity by neutral countries in the international arena. Their voice has become more audible and the efforts they have undertaken to strengthen peace and mutual trust on our continent have become more appreciable.

We pay due tribute to the contribution made by neutral countries, including Austria, in restructuring international life in Europe on the basis of recognition of and respect for existing political and territorial realities and in conformity with the broad, constructive program of cooperation adopted in Helsinki.

We are in favor of strengthening and deepening rhe relaxation of tension in Europe and will do everything in our power to accomplish this. The Soviet Union considers the complete fulfillment of the final act of the conference on security and cooperation in all its parts to be important. It is called upon to serve the cause of constant improvement of the situation in Europe. Whoever might want to use the Helsinki accords for their own selfish aims and to interfere in the affairs of others would harm the great and important cause which was begun by the all-European conference.

We reject such an approach. We are in favor of constructive cooperation and are working at the Belgrade meeting from these positions. The meeting must be concluded in the set period and with favorable results. This is in the interests of all its participants.

The main and immediate task of our times lives in achieving the cessation of the arms race and beginning disarmament.through the collective efforts of all states. The corresponding proposals of the Soviet Union are well-known. We favor halting the production of nuclear weapons and the plan-governed elimination of nuclear arsenals. We favor a ban on all nuclear tests and the declaration of a moratorium on nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. We favor reaching an understanding at the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe as soon as possible.

All aspects of the arms race must be stopped. It is no use blocking the channels for some types of weapons while opening them for others which are even more sophisticated and dangerous. But this is precisely where matters are being led by those people who would like to produce neutron weapons and impose them on the West European countries.

Instead of dragging the world into a new twist of the arms race we propose to the Western countries the mutual renunciation of neutron bomb production. This is an honest and serious proposal. We are not seeking one-sided advantages here. In any event we will insure our security and the security of our friends and allies.

The problem of disarmament concerns all countries, regardless of their size, political orientation or social structure. There is no place for onlookers. The duty of every state is to make a contribution to the isolation of this task.

Mr Federal Chancellor, we have exchanged opinions with you on a broad range of problems. It was a useful and fruitful exchange. I am confident that your visit and the decisions made by us will give new impetus to the development and deepening of friendly Soviet-Austrian cooperation.

A.N. Kosygin proposed a toast to the federal chancellor of Austria, Dr Bruno Kreisky, to all the Austrian guests and to the mutual understanding and friendship between the peoples of Austria and the Soviet Union.

KREISKY INTERVIEWED IN MOSCOW ON RESULTS OF USSR VISIT

AU091120Y Vienna Domestic Service in German 1730 GMT 8 Feb 78 AU

[Rudolf Nagiller interview with Austrian Federal Chancellor Kreisky in Moscow on 8 February--recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Nagiller's first question to the federal chancellor was how he assessed the outcome of his visit.

[Answer] Naturally one can always assess a political visit, the political result only if.... It has become clear that the relations between Austria and the Soviet Union are free from any encumbrances and that the Soviet side realizes that trade must be increased and that the idea of cooperation in third country markets--the prerequisites for this idea exist, genuine economic and technical prerequisites. [answer as heard]

[Question] But is there a really tangible result as far as the main objective of the meeting is concerned, that is, the economic talks, or not?

[Answer] Such a visit cannot be pictured as placing a contract on the table at the end of the conversation or talks and as saying: Now you sign. But the immediate result of the visit was a meeting between Trade Minister Dr Staribacher, Secretary General Musil and businessmen and their Soviet counterparts. Quite specific deals were discussed in these negotiations and all this must be given concrete shape in the next few days and weeks. Of course, nobody gets anything for free in the economy: Naturally we must be efficient and able to maintain our position under reasonable competition.

[Question] Do you believe that on the basis of its relations Austria could have an initial advantage in the case of bids that are otherwise identical?

[Answer] We have certain advantage in this respect, resulting from the very requirement [beduerfnis]--which has always proved to be true for almost 25 years--that, since the conclusion of the state treaty, the Soviet side has attached great importance to good relations, to illustrating the idea of coexistence by the example of Austria.

AUSTRIAN CP MEMBER LAUDS KREISKY'S MOSCOW VISIT

LD091742Y Moscow TASS in English 1600 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Vienna, February 9 TASS--Hans Kalt, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Austria, has highly appreciated the visit paid by Austria's Chancellor Bruno Kreisky to the Soviet Union. In the leading article of the Newspaper VOLKSSTIMME he writes that the visit, the reception of the chancellor by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and Soviet-Austrian negotiations on the whole are a fresh contribution to relaxation of tension and consolidation of peace in Europe.

The Soviet Union treats with understanding and sympathy the striving of the neutral countries, including Austria, to make their constructive contribution to stronger trust between states and further development of the process of detente, Hans Kalt points out.

He stresses that Bruno Kreisky's visit is of vital significance for Austria. The Soviet Union's readiness for expansion of trade and economic relations signifies that tens of thousands jobs will be created at Austria's enterprises, which is particularly important in conditions of the growing crisis in the West. The Moscow negotiations have shown that there are vast possibilities in deepening and developing goodneighbourly relations between Austria and the USSR.

CDU/CSU ENGINEERED LEBER'S FALL TO WEAKEN GOVERNMENT

LD070909Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent V. Mikhaylov article: "The FRG: Cabinet Reorganization"]

[Text] Bonn, 3 February--Only a week ago during parliamentary discussion of the military budget Leber stated that he would not please the opposition by resigning. What has changed since then?

Some details became known at a press conference. During the recent debates in the Bundestag, Leber inaccurately informed the deputies that the MAD, the military counter-intelligence agency, "only one single time" without appropriate permission and without his knowledge conducted surveillance with the help of "bugs" (as miniature listening devices are called in the FRG). In fact--and after investigation the minister reported this to the government--the number of such "cases" is "at least 12."

However, it was not these actions, overstepping the "bounds of legality", which aroused opposition protests. There are no more zealous supporters of the limitation of democratic rights and freedoms in the country than the Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union [CDU/CSU]. The leaders of the conservative bloc simply used Leber's ignorance of his subordinates' actions to accuse the minister of having lost the ability to lead the country's armed forces. In reply, Wehner, leader of the Social Democratic faction, stated in the Bundestag: "This is all organized, all premeditated. It is a campaign according to all the rules of military art."

The events of that "single case" which Leber reported to the Bundestag indeed makes it possible to arrive at such a conclusion. Just over 3 years ago MAD ordered its agents to secretly penetrate the apartment of the defense minister's personal secretary and install "bugs". The operation took place without Leber's knowledge. Recently a report appeared in the journal QUICK, which is allied to the CDU/CSU opposition bloc, on "outrages in Leber's ministry". The report cited details which could only be known to organizers of the operation. Following this report, the leaders of the CDU/CSU themselves started to attack the Social Democrat minister as if according to a plan. That is why suspected collaboration between extreme reactionary "Christian" circles, the secret services and the reactionary press is being expressed more and more loudly.

Another thing is also noteworthy. The attacks are taking place against a minister whom the opposition regarded favorably quite recently. It openly supported Leber's efforts to increase the Bundeswehr's armaments and his desire to obtain new, high posts in NATO headquarters for West German generals. Now, in spite of these "services", Leber has lost the opposition's good will.

Two main reasons for this are cited. In the CDU/CSU, open confrontation with the ruling parties and disrupting republic is gaining force, acting on Strauss's formula: The worse the situation in the country, the better for the CDU/CSU. The CDU/CSU's emphasis is directed against the government of the Social Democrats and Free Democrats. The second reason follows from this. The military sphere is one of the few in domestic policy where, until now, clashes between the coalition parties have been minimal. If this link is weakened, the Strausses believe, it will be easier to try to shake the coalition's unity.

There is one more feature in the story of how the "bugs" ate Leber. The collaboration between the CDU/CSU and Bundeswehr generals is being observed very closely. The latter view Leber's overthrow as an opportunity to continue dismantling political control over the army by the government.

The story of the "bugs" conceals many contradictions between various political forces in the country but their essence lies in the struggle between the old and the new in the FRG's orientation.

FRG PRESS COMMENTS ON LAMBSDORF'S VISIT TO U.S.

LD082216Y Moscow TASS in English 2001 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

["Contradictions Remain"--TASS headline]

[Text] Bonn, February 8 TASS--"The controversy between Bonn and Washington on questions of economic policy", "the United States criticizes Bonn's economy policy"--under such headlines large newspapers report here the completion of American-West German negotiations the FRG minister of economics, Otto Lambsdorf, held in Washington.

Observers emphasize that these negotiations were held at a time when dissatisfaction is growing in the FRG industrial-financial circles with Washington's monetary operations, which inflict upon many West German industries a damage estimated at hundreds of millions of marks.

Judging by press reports, in the course of the Washington negotiations the West German side turned down the United States' demands that measures be taken to create in the country an economic situation advantageous for the United States, stressing that these measures would be contrary to the interests of the FRG. As is stressed by FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU, the West German Government stubbornly refuses to meet the U.S. "wishes", believing that this might lead to growth of American exports to the FRG, which is being most resolutely opposed by the biggest organizations of businessmen.

ANDREOTTI RESUMES TALKS, PCI POSITION SCORED

LD091619Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent N. Prozhogin report: "Talks Resume"]

[Text] Rome, 7 Feburary--Prime Minister-designate G. Andreotti today resumed talks with delegations from the country's leading political parties on questions of forming a new government. He received the Communist Party [PCI] representatives first. They are to be followed by the Socialists and Social Democrats. According to the projected program, meetings will be held tomorrow with the Republicans and Liberals and finally with an official delegation from the Christian Democrats, the party of the aspiring head of government himself.

Commentators note that the resumption of the talks on resolving the government crisis became possible due to a change in position initially held by the Christian Democrats who, under the influence of public opinion and in the face of the firm and principled line of the PCI and the initiatives displayed by the Socialists and the Republicans and to a certain extent by the Social Democrats, have been obliged to change their position and abandon their overtly anticommunist tendencies.

The new powers which the Prime Minister-designate has received from his party's leadership, although they have broadened the talks by considering political problems linked with the role and place of the communists in the country's leadership, still contain many unclear elements. It is no accident that the decision of the Christian Democratic Party [DC] leadership has been most diversely interpreted. In particular, in accordance with the outside pressure brought to bear on Italy by imperialist circles, the right-wing circles are striving to give this decision as narrow an interpretation as possible, a move which threatens the success of the talks. In this connection the Socialist Party organ--the newspaper AVANTI--writes that the outcome of the second round of consultations will depend on how G. Andreotti is "able to use" the mandate he has received.

In the past few days the Italian public's attention has been focused on the PCI, which through its representatives at meetings and assemblies taking place in various cities, is explaining its position of defending the interests of the working class and working masses and stressing that it fully accords with Italy's true national interests. Summarizing the PCI's attitude to the DC decision, the newspaper L'UNITA writes today that "it is a case of the definitive explanation of issues concerning the government program, the political guarantees, the structure of the government.... The main problem is to give the country a clear political orientation on the basis of responsibility assumed jointly by all democratic forces" for the solution of the acute problems which face Italy.

The next few days, the Italian newspapers write, should reveal the positions of all political parties on these urgent problems.

ITALY: DC ATTEMPTS TO FORM GOVERNMENT REVIEWED

LD071415Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Feb 78 pd 5 LD

[N. Prozhogin dispatch: "Situation Remains Unclear"]

[Text] Rome--A session of the DC Directorate lasted approximately 2 hours. It discussed amending the authority which it had previously given to one of its leaders--G. Andreotti--to form a new government.

As is known, the previous DC government, which was headed by Andreotti, was forced to resign since, in the opinion of the other parties which subscribed to last year's program agreement, it had failed to reach its goals. At the same time three parties--Communist, Socialist and Republican--have suggested creating an emergency government of national unity consisting of representatives of all democratic, antifascist forces, including Communists and Socialists.

The Directorate of the DC--the country's largest bourgeois party, which does not, incidentally, have its own majority in Parliament--originally stated that it would agree only to "improve" the program agreement under which the remaining parties, as last year, would have to abstain in a vote of confidence in the new cabinet. While no longer able to ignore the opinion of the Communist Party, the object of this stand nonetheless was to prevent its official participation in the parliamentary majority on which the new government would rely. The same path is pursued by the United States and the NATO countries, which, in applying pressure on Italy, are trying to prevent a larger Communist role in the country's political leadership by any means, including direct interference in its internal affairs.

However, times are changing. Rightwing circles can no longer unconditionally dictate their terms. The pressure from abroad is also eliciting an increasingly broad and decisive rebuff. Under these circumstances, the aspiring prime minister's talks with other parties on forming a government on the basis of a formula to exclude Communists from both the government and the parliamentary majority, are virtually deadlocked. Because of this, the DC Directorate has revised its original "tough" stand. The decision which it adopted late Friday is a compromise reflecting the correlation of forces within the DC Directorate which includes, in addition to rightwing, anticommunist circles, forces which look more realistically at the situation.

The DC Directorate has again rejected the proposal to create a government of national unity as well as a "political alliance" with the Communists which, as L'UNITA points out, has not even been suggested. At the same time it has charged Andreotti with resuming the talks with other political parties including the Communist Party and on the formation of a cabinet on the basis of joint "agreement of a program" with them. In practice, observers point out, this could mean that owing to the force of circumstances, the DC Directorate has been forced to agree to Communists not only participating in drawing up the government program but also voting for it in Parliament.

Here, however, they wish to present this vote in such a way that it disguises the Communist Party's role in the parliamentary majority on which the government relies. Taking into account the criticism of the previous cabinet for failing to fulfill last year's six-party agreement, Andreotti is preposing the creation of a committee consisting of the heads of the party factions in Parliament which would monitor the government program. On the other hand, he is asking secretly for "guarantees" that his cabinet can exist until the end of the year, when presidential elections are to be held.

It is assumed that the prime minister-designate will resume the talks on forming a new government next week. However, the situation remains complex. Only the Social Democrats have responded positively to the DC decision. The Socialist newspaper AVANTI is critical of it. Claiming that the DC has changed its position, L'UNITA, organ of the PCI, points out that the political aspect of the problem remains unclear. "It is a question of a gesture," the newspaper writes concerning the DC Directorate's decision, "which is again veiled by vagueness and reservations which immediately give rise to many interpretations. It cannot be seen how the new 'balanced' formula of the DC leaders can be accurately evaluated in accordance with the real demands underlying the crises."

ZIMYANIN RECEIVES FINNISH CENTER PARTY GENERAL SECRETARY

LD031247Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Jan 78 p 4 LD

[Text] On 30 January M.V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and V.S. Shaposhnikov, had a meeting with Mikko Inmonen, general secretary of the Finnish Center Party, who is heading a delegation of Center Party district committees representatives which is in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

During a conversation which passed in a friendly atmosphere there was an exchange of opinions on the question of the further development of contacts between the CPSU and the Center Party and on other questions of mutual interest.

CUNHAL CITED ON PS-CDS COALITION, AUSTERITY POLICY

LD081251Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Around the Fraternal Parties"]

[Text] Madrid, 6 February--The main task of the Portuguese Communist Party [PCP] this year continues to be the defense of the revolutionary gains--nationalization, agrarian reform, worker control in enterprises and the democratic system enshrined in the constitution, Alvaro Cunhal, secretary general of the PCP, said in an interview with the Spanish newspaper EL PAIS. The PCP acts in defense of national independence which is threatened by imperialism which seeks to restore the economic and political power of the monopolies.

In order to overcome the severe economic and financial crisis experienced by Portugal, it is essential to mobilize internal forces and resources, he said. This is the most important condition of an immediate reduction of the catastrophic trade and balance of payments deficits. The unnatural government coalition of the Socialist Party [PS] and the extreme rightwing of the Social Democratic Center Party is incapable of dealing with this task. In the opinion of the Communists it will not only fail to solve a single pressing problem but will worsen them. Consequently, such a government is doomed to defeat.

Speaking of the PCP's principled position regarding the political course of the PS, Cunhal stated that the PCP seeks constructive participation in resolving national problems. Therefore, despite the criticism which they directed at the Socialist government and the PS leadership, the Communists have made concrete proposals aimed at achieving agreement between the two parties.

The PCP made the initial proposal for an austerity policy. However, we do not understand this policy in the same way as the bourgeois parties, the PCP secretary general pointed out. An austerity policy does not mean that the working people must pay for the crisis while the capitalists and latifundists are paid billions in compensation for expropirated property.

Rapprochement, mutual understanding, cooperation and Communists' and Socialists' unity in many countries, Cunhal noted, is a condition of the pursuit of a democratic and progressive policy.

Cunhal said that one of the main tasks of reaction is to weaken and smash the trade union movement. However, these plans are doomed to failure. The Portuguese trade union movement is strong and cohesive and is pursuing a firm class policy based on great experience of struggle.

SOARES PERFORMANCE WILL DETERMINE LENGTH OF OFFICE

LD072330Y Moscow in Portuguese in Portugal 1830 GMT 7 Feb 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "Portugal-78: Second Constitutional Government"]

[Text] Portugal has entered 1978 in the throes of a political crisis caused by the inability of the Socialist Government to solve the grave problems affecting the Portugese economy, an inability which was reflected in the vote of no confidence passed by the Assembly of the Republic in early December.

President Ramalho Eanes charged Mario Soares with forming a new government. Let us analyze the possibilities before Mario Saores: An alliance with the forces of the left--with the Portuguese Communist Party [PCP] in particular--in a political platform as advocated by the Communists; an alliance or platform with the Social Democratic Party [PSD] alone or together with the Social Democratic Center Party [CDS] a government of the Socialist Party [PS] plus independents, which would also have the support of the PCP; or a government with the CDS.

But what does the CDS stand for? This party finished fourth in the last local elections, behind the PS, PSD and FEPU, the latter being composed of communists and other forces of the left. [passage indistinct]

Led by Freitas Do Amaral, the CDS has very strong international support as a member of the international organisation of Christian Democrats [as heard] which is led by the Wagnerian baton of Franz Josef Strauss. At home the CDS is backed by the strong and middle bourgeoisie of northern Portugal and in the big bourgeoisie of northern, central and southern Portugal through their organizations. As if this were not enough, Portugal's entire powerful conservative clergy support the CDS, as do international Catholic organizations like Opus Dei.

By entering into a coalition with the CDS, the Socialists on the one hand are expecting the financial support of the United States and of the European Social Democrats, and on the other are relying, through the CDS, on the financial backing of the European Christian Democrats, particularly on the Munich bankers.

As is pointed out by foreign observers, through the agreement with the CDS, Mario Soares is hoping to hold on until the 1980 elections. However, the concrete actions of the new government will tell whether or not his calculations are correct, for the workers will not retreat but will tenaciously defend the agrarian reform, the nationalizations, worker control and the freedoms attained.

CLASHES IN BEIRUT, SOUTH BLAMED ON ARAB-REACTION, ISRAEL

LD091608Y Moscow TASS in English 1546 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, February 9, TASS--TASS correspondents Anatoliy Borisov and Leonid Volnov report:

Tension persists in eastern areas of the Lebanese capital. The tension aroused in the recent days as a result of clashes between Syrian troops, a contingent of the inter-Arab peace force and servicemen of the Lebanese Army and also units of the Lebanese conservative forces.

State institutions, schools, shops are closed in the eastern sector of the city, streets are patrolled by armed details.

According to a radio report, clashes took place this morning in some districts of Beirut between conservative forces and Palestinians, leaving some killed or wounded.

Disquieting news also came in from the south of the country where the conservative forces with active support of the Israeli military expand combat operations against the national-patriotic forces and the Palestine resistance movement. Last night the Israeli artillery subjected to a massive bombardment the positions of the national-patriotic forces and the Palestine resistance movement in the areas of settlements 'Arnun, Hardali, Balat, Marj 'Uyun.

Israeli troops moved deep into the Lebanese territory into the areas of Marun Ar-rais, Yarun and Rumatsh. According to the Palestinian information agency WAFA, Israel is concentrating tank and mechanised units near the frontier with Lebanon.

The situation that became more complicated in the country has been the subject of discussion at the government's meeting. Upon completion of the meeting the Prime Minister Salim al-Huss said that the Lebanese leadership intends to exert every effort to see to it that armed clashes be ended and the life in Beirut be restored to normalcy.

The local observers believe that the new complication of the situation in Lebanon is closely linked with the desire of Israel and Arab reaction to distract the attention from the impending Egyptian-Israeli separate deal. In political circles attention is being drawn here to the fact that every time a tendency becomes outlined in Lebanon towards normalisation of the situation and solution of the existing problems, the conservative forces, coordinating their actions with Israel, again provoke armed clashes and aggravate tension.

SYRIA'S AL-ASAD SCHEDULED TO VISIT USSR IN FEBRUARY

LD091925Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic, will pay an official, cordial visit to the USSR in the second half of February, at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government.

The exchange of visits between leaders of the two friendly countries has become traditional. The regularity of this exchange indicates the nature and level of cordial relations between the USSR and Syria and their importance to the development of events in the Middle East.

In the present situation, the meetings between the Soviet and Syrian leaders acquire special importance as the two countries are working firmly and steadily for a just, comprehensive settlement of the crisis to guarantee and safeguard first and foremost the national legitimate rights and interests of the Palestinian people and other Arab people subjected to Israeli aggression which is supported by U.S. imperialist circles.

Regarding bilateral relations between Syria and the USSR, any meeting between the leaders of both countries contributes to the development and bolstering of friendship and complete cooperation between them. These Soviet-Syrian relations are in full agreement with the interests of the national liberation struggle against imperialism waged by the people of the Arab countries and the USSR.

AL-ASAD CONDEMNS AS-SADAT'S POLICY AT PRESS CONFERENCE

LD091900Y Moscow TASS in English 1754 GMT Feb 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, February 9, TASS--From the outset the Syrian Arab Republic has opposed the capitulatory policy and together with others works to create a united front of Arab countries rejecting the course at a separate deal with Israel, a press conference here was told by the President of Syria Hafiz al-Asad. He said that much was done at the conference in Algiers to create such a front. We are yet at the beginning of the road, the president added, but the groundwork has already been laid.

The Syrian president condemned As-Sadat's separate talks with the Israeli leaders. I held and continue to hold that this is an erroneous road contradicting the interests of the Arab nation, he said. President al-Asad stressed that haggling over the inalienable national rights of the Arab peoples of Palestine is totally out of place. Syria, he said, has always opposed all plots directed against the Arab people of Palestine and will not allow any deals, waverings or faintheartedness in respect of the Palestinian people's cause.

Concerning Syrian-Egyptian relations, the president stated: "Here matters concern the central problem, the problem of the liberation of Arab territories. On this question there is no accord between Syria and Egypt, and our views of the solution of this problem totally differ."

Hafiz al-Asad stressed that the events in Lebanon indicate interference by external forces into its internal affairs.

Syria, the president said in conclusion, will further exert efforts to rally the Arab nation against the capitulatory course, will staunchly continue the struggle and no forces will succeed in pushing Syria off this road. The entire Arab nation will further adhere to the position of staunchness, honor and dignity.

RESULTS OF AS-SADAT VISIT TO U.S. DISAPPOINT CAIRO

LD100228Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2330 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Commentary by Cairo correspondent Kim Gerasimov]

[Text] The results of the visit of Egyptian President as-Sadat to Washington have been received with open dejection here. Newspaper editorials here admit that it is evident that he will not receive the desired U.S. support. And to tell the truth, as the same newspapers reported last week, the Egyptian president crossed the Atlantic with the intention of prompting the American leadership to pressure . Israel, so that it would make concessions at the bilateral Egyptian-Israeli talks which have been temporarily interrupted.

The Egyptian president evidently thought he was entitled to count on support: For the demand for bilateral talks between Israel and Egypt was an old demand of both Tel Aviv and Washington, its chief protector. And what did As-Sadat hear in reply? In point of fact, he was merely advised to be patient. That is the advice he received, according to available reports, from the head of the American administration. He heard the same thing during his visit to Congress, from the House majority leader. I would not care to speculate on how pleasant it was for the Egyptian president to hear such advice, but, according to reports from Washington, bitterness, despair and alarm were discernible in his speech to congressmen. Reports from Washington say openly that the United States has more sympathy for the Israeli approach to the problem of solving the Near East crisis and does not intend to put pressure on Tel Aviv.

And in the meantime, there are reports from Israel of the continuing construction of settlements on the occupied Arab lands. Prime Minister Begin is continuing to state that there can be no question of a return to the 1967 borders and the creation of an independent Palestinian state. By all accounts there is complete satisfaction in Tel Aviv with the results of the Egyptian president's visit across the Atlantic.

L'HUMANITE REPORTS EGYPT 'SLIDING TOWARD ECONOMIC DISASTER'

LD091050Y Moscow TASS in English 1017 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Paris, February 9, TASS--Early this century, 0.7 feddan of cultivated land (one feddan equals 0.42 hectare) was the average for every Egyptian. Today, this figure is only 0.03 feddan though tens of thousands of hectares of desert had been reclaimed thanks to the Aswan High Dam. Egypt, which was one of the granaries of the Roman empire in ancient times and still 30 years ago was self-sufficient in food, must now import ever larger quantities of prime necessities to maintain the life of the population, which increased from 25 million in 1963 to 39 million in 1977. These figures are quoted from an article "Egypt: Lost Illusions", carried by the French newspaper L'HUMANITE.

Commenting on the so-called "open-door policy", proclaimed by President as-Sadat after An-Nasir's death, L'HUMANITE remarks that "this policy did not produce the promised 'Japanese-style miracle' but, on the contrary, led to quite different results".

"The policy of open doors for foreign, Western or Arab capital, turned out to be a policy of still more widely opened doors for all kind of schemers and profiteers, for rapid enrichment, for embezzlement and corruption everywhere including most highly-ranking quarters.... The activity of this 'parasitical bourgeoisie', as Egyptian left-wing forces describe it, practically does not create any wealth, not a single new job These nouveaux riches do not build factories, but luxury apartments, which they lease for fabulous payment to oil magnates arriving in Egypt for a holiday and a good time. Even some people in As-Sadat's entourage gave in to this temptation".

Analysing Egypt's economic situation, the newspaper points out that per capital incomes in the A.R.E. are lower than in any other Arab country: Last year, the budget deficit was almost 8,000 million francs and Egypt once again had to resort to loans abroad (in the USA and Saudi Arabia) mainly to feed the population, or rather to prevent famine.

"But statistics are not needed to realize upon arrival in that country that it is ever more rapidly sliding into an economic disaster, L'HUMANITE continues.

Poverty is revealed to the traveller as soon as he steps ashore: He is surrounded by beggars in rags, peasants who had been compelled to abandon their plot of land too small to feed them and to join the ranks of jobless townfolk, children, roaming the streets asking for handouts or working as bootblacks or porters to earn a few coins for their maintenance. Egypt resembles a drowning man who grasps at a straw."

"Egypt, L'HUMANITE remarks, has reached such a degree of economic decline that all sections of society already realize that this cannot continue for long. Even those, who could be satisfied in conditions of general poverty, seeing how their bank accounts are growing, must ask themselves sometimes, whether they do not live on a volcano?"

NEW EGYPTIAN AL-WAFD PARTY TO RESEMBLE FRONT ORGANIZATION

LD091503Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent A. Vasilyev report: " A New Party"]

[Text] Cairo, 6 February--Another party--the New Al-Wafd--has been added to the three existing Egyptian parties. F'uad Sarag Ad-Din, the leader of the party, has stated that in the coming months the New Al-Wafd intends to publish a daily newspaper and a journal and to set up its own publishing house.

The new party includes many figures from the old Al-Wafd--a major bourgeois-landowner party disbanded after the 1952 revolution and also many new faces. The program takes into account the changes which have taken place in Egyptian society over a quarter of a century. It acknowledges, in particular, the significance of the 1952 revolution and advocates the "ideas of social democracy," the "coexistence" of the state and private sectors of the economy and so forth. It has been attempted present the New Al-Wafd as a front rather than a party, its leaders say, so that the various opposition forces in Egyptian society can find program provisions acceptable to them.

Evidence of Bourgeois Strength

LD091505Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Correspondent R. Moseyev dispatch: "New Party Created"]

[Text] Cairo--The Secretariat of Egypt's Arab Socialist Union has officially announced the establishment of the country's fourth political party--the New Al-Wafd Party. A group of politicians, supporters of the bourgeois-landowners' Al-Wafd Party disbanded after the 1952 revolution, initiated the creation of the new party.

The political program of the Wafdists, which has been made public, stresses that it advocates the capitalist path of development for the country, and for this purpose it will seek the establishment of "equilibrium between the state and private sectors of the economy." The New Al-Wafd Party regards the reorganization of the existing state apparatus as one of the top-priority conditions for improving the situation in the country.

The emergence of the New Al-Wafd Party into the Egyptian political arena is regarded by local observers as evidence of the strengthening of the positions of Egypt's big bourgeoisie which has grown abruptly more active in Egypt under the authorities' pro-Western open-door policy.

ALGIERS SUMMIT SAYS EGYPT FURTHERS IMPERIALISTS' SCHEMES

LD091043Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Feb Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Correspondent O. Knyazev dispatch: "Results of Conference"]

[Text] Algiers--A conference of heads of state and of other officials of Algeria, Libya, Syria, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the PLO, which was held in the Algerian capital, ended late Saturday evening with the adoption of a political declaration.

The separatist actions of the Egyptian president, As-Sadat, the declaration states, are in full accord with the imperialists' schemes which represent a serious threat to the independence of the Arab countries.

The leaders of the four Arab states and the PLO confirmed the conclusions which they reached at the preceding meeting in Tripoli. They once again declared their firm intention to achieve a just settlement of the Near East problem. The declaration says that the essential conditions of a genuine settlement are that Israel vacate all occupied Arab lands; and that the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine must be implemented, including the right to create an independent state.

One of the most important decisions of the conference is to give broad and comprehensive assistance to the PLO and Syria in their resistance to Israeli expansion. The conference participants pronounced themselves in favor of the further development of cooperation with the socialist countries and above all with the Soviet Union, which has alwyas given effective support to the Arab peoples in their struggle against the intrigues of imperialism and Zionism.

PDRY PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO USSR PRAISED BY ADEN PAPERS

LD072225Y Moscow TASS in English 2012 GMT 7 Feb 78 LD

["At The Focus of Attention"--TASS headline]

[Text] Aden, February 7 TASS--The development and strengthening of all-round relations with the Soviet Union occupies a special place in the foreign policy of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, writes the newspaper "14 OKTOBER" today in an (?editorial) devoted to the just ended visit to the USSR by a government delegation of the Democratic Yemen led by Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. "Talks between the Soviet and South Yemeni delegations, writes the paper, highlighted the common goals of the two peoples in the struggle against imperialism and reaction and revealed complete identity of views on the situation in the Middle East, the Horn of Africa, the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf areas and the principled stand of both sides on the international issues discussed during the Moscow talks."

The newspaper goes on: "The Democratic Yemen regards as the key trend of its foreign policy course the strengthening and development of relations with progressive Arab countries in order to oppose the intrigues by international Zionism and imperialism, in particular by president as-Sadat, who is their stooge in the Middle East." This gives added significance to the visit by a South Yemeni delegation to Syria and Iraq and the Damascus meeting between 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive, writes the paper.

PDRY PAPER CRITICIZES U.S. STRATEGY IN GULF, INDIAN OCEAN

LD072152Y Moscow TASS in English 2028 GMT 7 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Aden, February 7, TASS--The South Yemeni newspaper ATH-THAWRI has sharply criticised the U.S. imperialist strategy in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. Washington is seriously concerned over the weakening of the U.S. position in this strategically important region of the world and the growth of the national-liberation movement, writes the paper. Mindful of this fact, the monopolies, which are the true masters of the United States, seek increased American military presence there in order to establish control over the oil deposits of the Persian Gulf through direct military intervention if its interests there are threatened.

PDRY, ALGERIAN PARTY TALKS IN ALGIERS REPORTED

LD072038Y Moscow TASS in English 1735 GMT 7 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Algiers, February 7 TASS--A delegation of democratic Yemen, headed by 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, general secretary of the Central Committee of the United Political Organization--National Front is negotiating here with (?the Algerian leadership). The delegation attended here the meeting of heads of state and members of the leadership of a number of progressive Arab countries and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Discussed at the negotiations are questions of strengthening economic and political cooperation between the two countries.

In the course of the visit the head of the Yemeni delegation was received by Houari Boumediene, president of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic, chairman of the Revolutionary Council.

CONTINUING MATERIAL ON HORN OF AFRICA CONFLICT

Ethiopian Military Successes

LD091454Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa--In the past week particularly fierce fighting has been taking place in the eastern regions of Ethiopia against the Somali forces which had invaded it. Tanks, aircraft and heavy artillery were extensively used. Somalia made use of the huge arsenal of up-to-date weaponry obtained from countries of the NATO bloc directly from the Western capitals, or, for the greater part, through the instrumentality of reactionary Arab rulers. However, in spite of the aid from Western and Arab reactionaries to Mogadiscio, all attempts to capture the main towns in the Ogaden--Hara and Dire Dawa--ended in failure. Selected units of the Somali Army went into the attack three times against the Ethiopian positions in Dire Dawa. They attacked Harar five times. But all in vain. The bravery and steadfastness of the Ethiopian troops and the people's militia proved stronger. They not only stopped the Somali units but, going over to the attack in a fierce battle, turned the aggressors back.

As Fikre-Selassie Wodgeress, secretary general of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia, said at a press conference in Addis Ababa, the Somali forces in Ogaden are suffering defeat on all fronts under the attacks of the Ethiopian revolutionary forces.

The items captured by the Ethiopian Army include NATO tanks, heavy guns, mortars, machineguns, antiaircraft guns and thousands of boxes of shells, rockets and mortar bombs. This indisputably shows the increasing intervention of NATO in the military conflict in the Horn of Africa and the attempts of world imperialism to strengthen and expand its position in this important area.

In these conditions, the blows struck by the revolutionary Ethiopian Army against the Somali aggressors also constitute powerful blows at the neo-colonialist schemes of world reaction in the Horn of Africa region.

Call to Somali Soldiers

LD091258Y Moscow TASS in English 1250 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

["Message of Peace"--TASS headline]

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 9, TASS--The national revolutionary operational command of Ethiopia called upon the Somali Army soldiers, who had invaded Ethiopian territory to lay down their arms. A statement of the command, broadcast on the national radio, emphasised that there are no differences and hostilities between the peoples of Somalia and Ethiopia. The full responsibility for the present armed conflict is borne by the forces of international imperialism and the expansionist quarters of Mogadiscio that play into its hands through their actions aimed at undermining the people's revolution and seizing part of Ethiopian territory.

Addressing to the Somali working people the message of peace, the document said, Ethiopia declares that its defensive war is directed not against the mass of the Somali people but aimed at the liquidation of aggression. Our purpose is peace, respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of all states. We will wage the struggle for the attainment of these aims to the end.

Somali Callup

LD092306Y Moscow in English to Africa 2130 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Somalia has decided to declare a general callup and put all the armed forces on combat alert. The information minister, speaking in Mogadiscio, made it clear that fresh units would be committed to battle in an attempt to hold the captured Ethiopian territory. The minister used fabrications about Soviet plans for domination as a cover-up to appeal to the West for direct intervention in the conflict on the Horn of Africa and for greater aid to the Somali regime, whose expansionist policy is suffering defeat.

Ethiopian Statement

LD091436Y Moscow TASS in English 1410 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Test] Addis Ababa, February 9, TASS--The NATO countries and the reactionary Arab regimes bear all the responsibility for the armed conflict in the Horn of Africa. It is they who send troops and supply arms to the expansionist circles of Mogadiscio in the war of aggression which was unleashed by Somalia against revolutionary Ethiopia, says a statement published here by the Ethiopian Ministry of Information and National Guidance.

Western propaganda wants to avoid condemning Somalia's aggression, is trying to mislead world public opinion by lying assertions about Soviet and Cuban "involvement" in the conflict in the Horn of Africa and to cast aspersions on the socialist states which come out for peace and the inviolability of the frontiers of sovereign African states.

At the same time the Western press acts as a mouthpiece of the expansionist circles of Mogadiscio. It plays up all the statements from Somalia which distort facts and represent Ethiopia, the victim of aggression, as aggressor. The ministry described as "absurd" the assertions by Mogadiscio representatives that Ethiopia allegedly intends to split Somalia into two parts during the present counter-offensive which was launched by the Ethiopian Armed Forces. Our main and only aim is to stop Somalia's armed aggression. Total and unconditional withdrawal of Somalian troops from Ethiopian territory is the way to resolve the armed conflict in the Horn of Africa. To avoid further bloodshed the Somali troops who have invaded Ethiopian territory should immediately surrender. The only way out for the non-African forces fighting on Ethiopian soil is to retreat immediately beyond the Ethiopian frontier, the statement says.

Possibility of U.S. 'Interference'

LD091558Y Moscow TASS in English 1511 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 9, TASS--NATO countries and reactionary Arab regimes are fully responsible for the armed conflict in the Horn of Africa. It is they that send troops and supply weapons to the expansionist circles of Mogadiscio which unleashed an aggressive war against revolutionary Ethiopia, says a statement issued here by the Minister of Information and National Guidance. Facts given in the Western press are indicative of a wide flow of weapons sent by NATO countries to Somalia. According to the data, large batches of American rifles, Italian-made mortars, grenade launchers which are in service with NATO states, anti-tank rifles, machine guns, ammunition and military trucks reached Somalia. Heavy combat equipment is now being supplied there, too. The American Washington POST writes that about sixty French-made "AMX" tanks arrived in Somalia recently. They were supplied through a third country, most probably Saudi Arabia.

It was already reported earlier that Somalia received thirty tanks of American-make. The Ethiopian authorities showed one of such tanks captured in fighting against the Somalia aggressors to newsmen in Addis Ababa. Recently the Somali authorities again applied to Western powers in a request for troops and weapons. A destroyer from among the U.S. Sixth Fleet was urgently sent to the shores of Ethiopia. Egyptian President as-Sadat stated his participation in the arming of Somalia. He admitted that he already sent weapons to the Somalis.

Touching upon the responsibility of the West for the aggressive war which is being conducted by Somalia, a spokesman of the Ethiopian bureau of the organization of the masses stated that the USA and its NATO allies [are] further the stirring up of the military conflict in the Horn of Africa by their deliveries of weapons and other all-round support to Somalia. He pointed out that the presence of U.S. warships near the northeastern coast of Africa is a deliberate show of force with a view to intimidating Ethiopia. A U.S. direct interference in the internal affairs of the countries of the Horn of Africa may follow this show of force.

Report on French Tanks

LD091931Y Moscow TASS in English 1640 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Paris, February 9, TASS--The Foreign Ministry of France has refused to comment on press reports concerning the delivery of French military equipment, including 60 tanks of the AMX-type, to Somalia through third countries.

Today's Paris newspapers continue writing of these deliveries, saying that they were made via Saudi Arabia, where French arms are supplied under a contract which was signed earlier.

QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS and some other newspapers recall that such contracts usually stipulate for the use of arms exclusively by the country which buys them. In this connection local political observers asked whether this is a case of violation of contract terms by Saudi Arabia or a case of re-addressing deliveries with France's consent.

ETHIOPIANS CONFIDENT OF VICTORY WITH HELP OF 'RELIABLE FRIEND'

LD091301Y Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 31 Jan 78 p 3 LD

[NOVOSTI correspondent I. Baba-zade article: "Ethiopia on the Fronts of Revolution"]

[Text] Addis Ababa--The development of the revolutionary process in Ethiopia, which began in February 1974, is taking place in complex conditions of unending struggle against internal reaction, separatists, and imperialist forces supporting them. The Western states, headed by the United States, cannot reconcile themselves to the loss of positions in this part of the African Continent. The enemies of the Ethiopian revolution are trying to make the Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC) renounce plans to build a socialist society.

For 6 months now subunits of the Ethiopian Army and people's militia have been rebuffing the onslaught of Somali forces encroaching on the southeastern Province of Ogaden. Trying somewhow to justify the encroachment of Somali troops on Ethiopian territory, the Western press started the canard that the Soviet Union is primarily interested in the present conflict and that Cuban soldiers are fighting on the Ethiopian side. "Truth will out," Capt (Fakade) Wolde Mariam, chief of the PMAC section for the training of military and political cadres, stated decisively on this question. "I have just returned from the front, and I met with neither Soviet nor Cuban soldiers there. The West needed this lie to justify military supplies to Somalia. As for the Soviet Union, it has shown itself a true friend to Africa by making every effort to avert conflict. Our people know this and value the Soviet people's internationalism highly."

In spite of the acute domestic political situation and difficult combat at the front, working Ethiopia believes in its revolution. The slogans "Revolutionary Ethiopia or Death!" and "Everything for the front, everything for victory!" are constantly on the front pages of newspapers and journals and are repeated regularly in radio and television broadcasts. The working people are responding indeed to the appeal of Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the PMAC, to defend the gains of the revolution.

About 300,000 reservists--workers, peasants, office workers--have passed through a military training course at the (Tatek) educational and training center located 40 km from Addis Ababa. Former farm workers are preparing to defend the revolutionary gains, weapons in hand.

This is what (Tadesse Bayzhene), a member of the people's reserve and a worker in the "(Markkha Tibet)" printing works in the capital, said in a talk with the NOVOSTI correspondent: "Since the victory of October in Russia international reaction, together with internal counterrevolution, has been trying with all its might to turn back the course of history. However, nothing has come of it, and the will and determination of the Russian people proved to be stronger. We persistently study the experience of the struggle of the first years of Soviet power against internal and external enemies and the history of the Great Patriotic War.

These words are confirmed by daily deeds. On the initiative of one kebele--city dwellers' association--in the capital, a collection of resources for the defense fund has been organized throughout Ethiopia. On Sundays and in time free from work, adults and young people prepare dry rations, first aid kits, tents and linen for the army and the fighters of the people's militia. Peasants who have left for the front have been replaced in the fields by their wives, and sons have taken their fathers' places at machines. Working on rest days is common in plants and factories, and a competition has begun for the early fulfillment of production targets.

"The question is now being posed acutely--whether revolutionary Ethiopia is to be or not to be, Yiglet, minister of commerce and tourism, stated. "After the overthrow of the monarchy certain Western countries, setting themselves the goal of obstructing, come what may, the carrying out of socioeconomic transformations, resorted to an economic blockade. At the request of the PMAC the USSR sharply increased supplies of necessities, agricultural machinery and spare parts. This year the trade turnover between Ethiopia and the USSR will grow still more. That fact is convincing evidence that the Soviet Union has a profound understanding of the difficulties faced by Ethiopia at the present stage. With such a reliable friend, the Ethiopian people are firmly confident of final victory."

ECONOMY OF ETHIOPIA PASSES 'STERN TEST OF VIABILITY'

LD091047Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 78 P 4 LD

[Correspondent V. Korovikov dispatch: "Basis of Development"]

[Text] Addis Ababa, 6 February--One of the first decrees of the new Ethiopian authorities nationalized the main industrial enterprises and laid the foundations of the state sector of the economy.

This is already the fourth year that the more than 100 factories and plants united in 14 corporations have been working for the people. The results of their activity have shown, according to an Industry Ministry report, that, despite the difficulties connected with the fundamental breaking of the old social system, with sabotage and subversion by counterrevolutionary elements and with the military operations in Ogaden and Eritrea, the state sector of the Ethiopian economy has passed stern tests of viability. Nationalizati. has made it possible to organize cooperation among enterprises more efficiently and to se transport and distribute raw materials more rationally.

Even in these difficult years of very profound changes in the life of the country and under the conditions of the war imposed on Ethiopia by foreign aggressors, earnest work has been and is being done to expand production in individua sectors and to plan the construction of new enterprises. Thus 35 million birrs have been allocated just for the modernization of a textile factory, a brick and ceramics plant and a brewery in Addis Ababa. Thanks to the workers' enthusiasms and improved technology a cement plant in the capital has considerably increased cement output.

The food industry corporation, which numbers 24 factories, has increased sales of its commodities from 77 million birrs in 1976 to 95.6 million last year. This corporation is also constructing new projects. It is planned to construct two new oil mills in the very near future under an agreement with the GDR. A dairy plant will be erected in the city of Baherdar-Giyorgis with the Soviet Union's help. Three sugar refineries play an important role in supplying the population. In 1978 it is planned considerably to increase sugar production and raise it to 1.4 million quintals, 200,000 quintals more than last year. It is characteristic that productivity growth has been secured in the refineries, despite the departure of the majority of foreign specialists, who have been successfully replaced by local cadres. It is planned to create new sugarcane plantations.

A tire plant and a metalworking plant in the capital and a meat cannery in the city of Dase are successfully coping with their affairs. The latter factory has increased canned meat production sevenfold since nationalization.

The economic achievements of the state sector are to a considerable extent connected with the new attitude of the majority of workers toward their responsibilities. The appeals from the military government, the All-Ethiopian Trade Union Federation and local organs of power for increased production and conscientious work during these difficult years for the country are meeting with an ever-increasing response among workers collectives. Workers commissions and committees, which are being set up in factories and plants, are playing an increasingly important role in this process.

It is understandable that the military operations and the halting of traffic on the main railroad from Addis Ababa to Djibouti have resulted in great difficulties in obtaining raw materials and equipment from abroad and in exporting Ethiopian goods. Production of certain types of output has fallen, particularly in Eritrea. Despite all the complexities and difficulties, however, the economy of the new Ethiopia is characterized by progressive development as a result of the revolutionary reform.

ETHIOPIAN WORKERS CALL FOR MARXIST-LENINIST PARTY

LD081856Y Moscow TASS in English 1800 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 8 TASS--Delegates to a recent conference here of the trade union of workers in Ethiopia's manufacturing industry called for a strengthening of the unity of progressive forces with the aim of creating a political party adhering to Marxist-Leninist ideology.

A resolution adopted by the conference stresses the need to vigorously disseminate ideas on Marxism-Leninism and establish a ramified network of schools to train political workers. The resolution also noted the need to organise the military training of broad masses of working people to struggle against the internal and external reaction.

The delegates expressed firm resolve to uphold the gains of the revolution and Ethiopia's territorial integrity.

ZIMBABWE COMMUNIQUE SAYS 1,000 RHODESIAN SOLDIERS KILLED

LD081614Y Moscow TASS in English 1510 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Lusaka, February 8, TASS--The Zimbabwe patriots are stepping up their armed struggle against the unlawful Smith regime. In the period from June to October 1977, says the communique of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, published here, the freedom fighters have killed over one thousand Rhodesian soldiers, captured large quantities of war material and released more than two and a half thousand Africans from concentration camps, where they were thrown by the racialist authorities.

The communique reports on the successful operation of Patriotic Front detachments against the "Grand Reef" air force base, carried out last mid-December. The racialists launched from this base piratic raids on the territory of Mozambique and carried out punitive expeditions against the peaceful population of the liberated areas in the eastern part of Rhodesia. In the course of the operation, which proved to be a resounding victory of the Zimbabwe patriots, 400 Rhodesian soldiers were killed and the enemy lost considerable quantities of war materiel.

Our military successes, the communique stresses, are the direct result of the growing support given to the Patriotic Front by the population of the country, enhanced political and military strength of the patriots. It is one more warning to the Smith regime and his puppets that the day of genuine freedom and independence of Zimbabwe is nearing.

INDOCHINA

POLITICAL REVENGE, CIA HAD ROLE IN SRV ENVOY'S EXPULSION

LD081438Y Moscow in English to North America 2330 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Excerpts] Our Observer Viktor Moskvin comments on the expulsion of the head of Vietnam's United Nations Mission from the United States:

Vietnam's ambassador to the United Nations, Dinh Ba Thi, was accused of collecting intelligence information from a Vietnamese who had been living in the United States. These allegations were made against him only 3 days after a Vietnamese and an American were arrested and charged for espionage. There is something fishy about the speed with which a top Vietnamese diplomat was linked ostensibly with an espionage ring.

After a devastating war which lasted for over a decade in Vietnam, Washington was defeated militarily. After the war ended Washington set its mind on political revenge. This helps explain its stubborn refusal to allow the Socialist Republic of Vietnam into the United Nations. Once it was accepted, the road was somewhat cleared for the establishment of normal relations between the two countries, all the more so since the Carter Administration had dissociated itself from all the wrongdoings of its predecessors. But it seems that the feeling to seek revenge in this or that, the urge to insult and humiliate is still there, and Washington's decision, rash and harsh, bears this out.

When Washington announced its expulsion demand, it did not refer to the role the Central Intelligence Agency might have played in this espionage affair. But in my opinion it's safe to assume that the CIA did have its finger in it.

Of the 149 United Nations member countries, almost two-thirds have protested against Washington's expulsion demand. These protests are not only an act of solidarity, they reflect widespread concern among foreign United Nations missions that none of them is guaranteed against similar provocation in a country where harrassment and disruption of normal diplomatic duties have unfortunately become a fact of life.

UN Condemns Action

LD100932Y Moscow TASS in English 0817 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 10, TASS--The United Nations has decisively condemned the illegal action of the American authorities which demanded that Dinh Ba Thi, permanent representative of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the UNO, leave the United States because he is charged with "espionage".

The U.N. committee on host country relations demanded that the American authorities take effective and immediate steps to ensure the normal work of representatives of foreign states at the United Nations. Ambassador Dinh Ba Thi described U.S. actions as an "unprecedented act in the history of the UNO. "He categorically denied the charges against him as "slanderous and groundless" and as "insulting the dignity of the people of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam."

'Unprecendented' Act

OW091451Y Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1430 GMT 8 Feb 78 OW

[Text] The Soviet people are indignant at the U.S. Department of State's request that the SRV permanent representative to the United Nations Dinh Ba Thi leave the United States. This request constitutes a gross violation of international law. By making its request, the United States abuses its right as the host country of the United Nations and seriously hampers the normal activities of the SRV's legitimate representation at the United Nations.

This illegal request by the U.S. Department of State serves the interests of the imperialist circles who were angered by the Vietnamese people's glorious victory in their struggle for freedom and independence. It also serves the interests of those who do not like the achievements registered by Vietnam in its present socialist construction and the SRV's rising international prestige.

Everyone knows about the American reactionaries' (?plot) to prevent Vietnam from assuming its legal position at the United Nations. Everyone knows that these forces are striving to block the normalization of relations between Vietnam and the United States. It should be remembered that a representative of these forces has openly declared that the Vietnamese-Cambodian conflict suits the interests of the U.S. policy.

Meanwhile all peace-loving governments and people call for a peaceful settlement of this conflict. All people of good will, including those in the United States, are extremely indignant at the slanderous allegations that have recently been made against Vietnam by the U.S. rightist press.

This action by the U.S. administration against an SRV representative, unprecedented in UN history, [words indistinct]. It runs counter to the will of the people of various countries advocating relaxation of international tension. It harms the consolidation of peace and security. The Soviet people agree with the statement of the SRV Foreign Ministry that the United States should end actions that grossly encroach on the status of the SRV's permanent representation to the United Nations and insure conditions for its normal activities.

VIETNAMESE REPORT ON LATEST CAMBODIAN 'AGGRESSION' CITED

LD071220Y Moscow TASS in English 1120 GMT 7 Feb 78 LD

["Rebuff to Kampuchea Aggression"--TASS headline]

[Text] Hanoi, February 7, TASS--The Vietnam information agency reported the latest armed actions by Kampuchean forces infringing on Vietnam's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

On February fourth and fifth, Kampuchean troops shelled from long-range guns a number of densely populated districts, including the town of Ben Cau, Tay Ninh Province, which lies six kilometers from the frontier, and also the provincial center Tay Ninh, which lies 14 kilometers from the frontier. Big material damage was inflicted. Ten civilians were killed and 25 wounded.

In the same period Kampuchean forces attacked the villages Khanh An and Khanh Binh and other populated centres in An Giang Province.

Defending the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam, the life, property and peaceful labour of the Vietnamese people, the report says, the Vietnamese Armed Forces in An Giang Province struck a telling blow on the Kampuchean Armed Forces in retaliation to their criminal actions. In Khanh An and Khanh Binh villages, four Kampuchean battalions sustained heavy losses. Over 1,000 enemy soldiers were put out of action, prisoners were taken and large quantities of arms captured. The Kampuchean survivors were routed and expelled beyond the frontier line.

In Long An Province, Vietnamese Armed Forces also struck telling blows on Kampuchean attacking forces. Many Kampuchean soldiers were killed or wounded and large quantities of arms captured.

SCENE ON SRV BORDER AFTER CAMBODIAN ATTACKS DESCRIBED

LD091437Y Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 4 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[correspondent A. Levin report: "They Came by Night"]

[Text] Vietnam-Cambodia borders, Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi--The Chinook military helicopter set a course for the border. We were not in the air long: In half an hour the helicopter was hovering above a small border airfield.

On the ground by a hangar young men in military uniforms were opening bottles of lemonade, and the helicopter's passengers--a group of foreign and Vietnamese journalists--pounced on the cool liquid: After all, the temperature was 30 degrees. It took us 5 minutes to refresh ourselves. A lieutenant colonel in a neatly pressed uniform spread a map out on a big table and waited patiently.

There followed a precise and brief military report on the situation in the distant border region, and particularly in the commune of An Ky. Here from 11 through 19 January seven battalions of the 2d and 520th Cambodian Infantry Divisions penetrated Vietnamese territory to a distance of 6-7 km. On their way the Cambodian soldiers set fire to villages and killed and robbed the peaceful population. In particular, in the village of Ba Den they set fire to 125 houses, killed 27 inhabitants and wounded 41. As a result of these attacks rice paddies were destroyed over an area of about 4,000 hectares. Subunits of the Vietnamese Armed Forces gave a fitting rebuff to the border violators.

Finishing his report, the lieutenant colonel rolled up the map and invited us to board busses. Our road went on further, right up to the border, another 15 km. We drove along the dusty country road. On both sides was traditional Vietnamese countryside: bamboo huts in palm groves, rice paddies, ox-drawn carts, peasant women carrying baskets of bananas and pineapples to market. But halfway to the border front-line aspects began to break into this peaceful picture. Artillery salvos began to roar dully, and from time to time bursts of machinegun fire shattered the silence. Field telephone wires stretched across the rice paddies, and we passed cars camouflaged with huge palm leaves. [paragraph continues]

A few more kilometers, and around a bend the village of Ba Den, of which the lieutenant colonel had spoken, appeared. Or rather, what was left of that village: skeletons of destroyed huts, household utensils scattered on the ground, charred banana trees, orchards covered in ash. And all around--lifeless rice paddies, burnt, trampled....

We got out of the bus and went on to the neighboring village of Phuc Yong on foot. No road goes there, only a path across a former rice paddy. Charred earth surrounded the path. It was 4 km to the village, which was right on the border, but after about a kilometer we were stopped by a military patrol. A young lieutenant courteously explained that we could not go further because it was unsafe. And as if to confirm his words, shots were heard from the border.

Before turning back, we stopped for a while in a small banana grove. While the soldiers gave us cool coconut milk, the lieutenant told us about the battles in the last few days. He pointed out a small hill on Cambodian territory where a night attack had begun on 11 January. The Cambodian soldiers' first victims were the inhabitants of the village of Phuc Yong. As the lieutenant named the village, a muffled moan was heard behind us. I turned around. Not far off, under a coconut palm, a woman was sitting and crying. It turned out that she had also been going to the village: She had left a 15-year-old daughter there. The Cambodian soldiers had killed the girl: Nguyen (Tkhi Kin)--that was the woman's name--told me through her tears that on that day she had gotten home late from the market. Approaching the village, she suddenly heard shots. She dropped her baskets and rushed forward--her daughter had been left at home. But those villagers who had survived ran toward her. (Nguyen Tkhi Kin) learned of her daughters death from them. Neighbors led the distraught woman away almost by force--the Cambodian soldiers were advancing from the village in a line, killing everyone who got in the way. After 2 hours they reached the village of Ba Den....

We spent 2 days on the Vietnam-Cambodia border, two days in the front-line area. The burned villages of Phuc Yong and Ba Den in An Giang Province.... The settlement of Khao Xa in Tay Ninh Province, which was fired on by Cambodian artillery. The village of Tan Lap--the last border point on Vietnamese territory, where last September Cambodian soldiers carried out a real butchery. Passing a club where refugees from border villages were living temporarily, we set off again on the dusty country road. And again for a few kilometers bursts of machinegun fire informed us that we were approaching the border.

I did not immediately notice the village of Tan Lap. Our little buses stopped in front of two destroyed houses. At first I thought it was an old farmstead, but it was the village. Two destroyed houses--that is all that was left of it. And also a graveyard, a graveyard which had appeared right there, just in front of the entrance to one of the houses. I counted 30 graves in the graveyard. Small wooden tomb stones bore surnames, first names, age and date of death. Various ages--40, 20, 12, 9, 5 years. Only one date of death--25 September 1977. All 30 people were relatives--three families who lived in a few huts next to each other. Of the 30 people only one 14-year-old girl, (Kho Tkhi Myong), was still alive. When we approached, she was sitting on one of the graves crying. She comes there every day from a neighboring village, where she lives with her uncle. From her confused story I found out what had happened that night in the village of Tan Lap.

Cambodian soldiers appeared unexpectedly out of the forest at about midnight. (Myung) was awakened by shooting. She saw a glow through the window. Neighboring houses were alight. (Myung) wanted to rush outside to the yard but there were soldiers there. She heard her father's voice. He was expalining something to the soldiers, saying that he was not military but a simple peasant. Then there was the rattle of automatic fire and her father's voice broke off. From somewhere far away came the sound of a penetrating scream from her girl friend. (Myung) dimly recalls the moment when her mother rushed her brothers and sisters out through the back door, crying for them to seek shelter in a cellar. (Myung) does not remember how they got there, only that it was very crowded and difficult to breathe. Then an automatic weapon appeared through an aperture in the trap-door and the cellar was filled with a roaring sound and the smell of burning. (Myung) lost consciousness. It was almost morning when she regained consciousness and she cried out in terror: She was buried under the bodies of her brothers and sisters and her mother. (Myung) got herself outside with difficulty. By the entrance to the cellar, their neighbor, Uncle Van, was sitting, his head in his hands, the body of his daughter which he had just dragged out of the cellar lying before him. (Van's) daughter had hidden herself in the cellar along with (Myung's) family. Some 13 people in the cellar were killed. That night a total of 25 families were massacred.

"The Cambodian soldiers went round our frontier post in the dark," Captain Nguyen (Kuok Toan), commander of the local unit said, "and they approached the village through the forest. They dealt savagely with the peaceful inhabitants and surrounded the post with a force of two battalions. Our boys, numbering only 40, held on courageously. They fought for 2 days and on the third day reinforcements arrived and we thrust the invaders back into their own territory. Later they attempted twice more to penetrate across the frontier with a force of two regiments, but we beat back the attacks. The day before yesterday they bombarded the area with mortars and 105 mm guns. It is quieter there now, although we know that the Cambodians have not given up trying to seize our territory in that area. They are trying to carry out reconnaissance to discover our numbers and combat capability."

(Myung's) neighbor, Nguyen (Tan Van), whose wife and three of his children were killed by the Cambodian soldiers and who was left with just a small daughter, listened to our conversation with the captain. He is a former partisan and during the war fought in those areas against the Americans and their puppets.

"What is now happening seems incredible," Nguyen (Tan Van) said quietly, stroking the head of his little daughter, "since regions here and on Cambodian territory were liberated during the war. Thieu was in Saigon and Lon Nol in Phnom Penh, and we struggled here shoulder to shoulder against the soldiers of one or the other regime. For the inhabitants of our village the other side remained not just friends but also kinsmen. During the war we often visited each other and dreamed of how fine life would be when the liberation came, but now.... Now this seems to me like some kind of nightmare. I try to work it out and understand what is happening on that side and I cannot. But I firmly believe that there are people in Cambodia who also cannot understand what is happening and think this fratricide outrageous. [paragraph continues]

I have known those people for many years and I cannot believe that they could betray themselves, their views and their beliefs."

The suffering of the old partisan and his desire to comprehend what is happening are understandable. It is very difficult to understand what is happening on the other side of the frontier. Cambodia, since its liberation in April 1975, has been called a closed country. Foreigners are rarely allowed there. But here on the frontier I had the opportunity to meet and talk with captured Cambodian soldiers and people who had crossed the frontier because they did not wish to live any longer under the conditions they experienced in their homeland. I had the opportunity to become acquainted with documents describing how hostile actions are being planned against the SRV. But more of that later.

ARMY GEN PAVLOVSKIY VISITS LAOS, TALKS WITH SOUPHANOUVONG

Meeting with Souphanouvong

LD071149Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Text] Vientiane, 3 February TASS--An evening of brotherhood in arms devoted to the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces has been held in Viengsay in Laos' northeast province of Houa Phan. Veterans of the revolution, soldiers of the Lao People's Liberation Army and representatives of local party organs and public organizations participated in it. The soiree was attended by Army General I.G. Pavlovskiy, USSR deputy defense minister and commander in chief of ground forces, who is here on an official visit.

I.G. Pavlovskiy presented the Lao soldiers with a memorable gift--a bust of V.I. Lenin, leader of the world proletariat, a library of Marxism-Leninism classics concerning the defense of the socialist homeland and a jubilee photo exhibition on the Soviet Armed Forces.

I.G. Pavlovskiy then had friendly talks with Souphanouvong, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee Politburo and president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. Pavlovskiy conveyed to the president and the Lao people combat greetings from Comrades L.I. Brezhnev, A.N. Kosygin and D.F. Ustinov and presented Souphanouvong with a personal weapon as a symbol of the combat fraternity of the two peoples.

It is with emotion and joy, President Souphanouvong said, that the Lao people receive the greetings from Comrade L.I. Brezhnev and the other Soviet leaders. We regard them not only as high praise of the activity of the LPRP, the government, the Lao people and their army in strengthening the positions of socialism in Southeast Asia and in fulfilling their international duty, but also as a powerful means of mobilizing our multinational people to successfully fulfill the program of socioeconomic transformations in the new Laos. We are now doing great work in all spheres of economic and cultural building to strengthen the young republic, which is socialism's outpost in this region of the world. In this work we utilize the experience of the Soviet country and its glorious army created 60 years ago by the party of Bolsheviks headed by the great leader and teacher V.I. Lenin.

We will never forget, Souphanouvong emphasized, the tremendous assistance which the CPSU, the government, the Soviet people and their army gave Laos in the war years and which they are continuing to give in the years of peaceful building. We are firmly convinced that the relations of fraternal friendship and solidarity existing between our parties, peoples and armies will strengthen and develop for the good of the cause of peace and socialism.

Having concluded his visit to Laos, I.G. Pavlovskiy left for home 3 February.

Army Friendship Meeting

LD071201Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[Text] Vientiane, 2 February TASS--"Long live the combat solidarity and friendship between the peoples of Laos and the USSR and their valiant armed forces!"--under this slogan a Lao-Soviet friendship meeting was held at the location of the 1st Motorized Rifle Regiment of the Lao People's Liberation Army. Army General I.G. Pavlovskiy, USSR deputy defense minister and commander in chief of ground forces, who is here on an official visit, Saman Vignaket, Lao deputy national defense minister and chief of the Lao People's Liberation Army Political Directorate, and representatives of units of the capital's garrison were the guests of this illustrious regime's servicemen.

Our soldiers and commanders, Regimental Commander (Tyampa Suyasuk) said, addressing the meeting, are very glad to receive a representative of the heroic Soviet Army. Now, as we are preparing to mark the 60th anniversary of the creation of the glorious army of the land of the soviets, our meeting assumes special significance. Servicemen in the Lao Army learn combat skill from Soviet friends and apply their experience. We will always strengthen the combat friendship and solidarity between our peoples and our armies in the interests of strengthening the positions of peace and socialism on earth.

Army General I.G. Pavlovskiy, who spoke at the meeting, conveyed to the servicemen of the Lao People's Liberation Army combat greetings from Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, USSR defense minister, and from Soviet servicemen, and presented souvenir gifts to the best regiment of the Lao People's Liberation Army.

The guests then familiarized themselves with the regiment's history, attended a parade inspection and toured the unit's location.

Return to Moscow

LD071203Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Text] Army General I.G. Pavlovskiy, USSR deputy defense minister and commander in chief of ground forces, who has been on an official visit to the LPDR at the invitation of K. Siphandon, LPDR deputy prime minister and national defense minister, returned to Moscow 4 February.

Army General I.G. Pavlovskiy was met at Sheremetyevo Airport by Army General S.K. Kurkotkin, USSR deputy defense minister, and other Soviet generals and officers.

F. Boupha, LPDR charge d'affaires ad interim in the USSR, was among the welcoming party.

DPRK MEMORANDUM DRAWS WORLD ATTENTION TO ROK MILITARIZATION

LD091055Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Yu. Shtykanov commentary: "Propping Up the Seoul Regime"]

[Text] The DPRK Government has issued a memorandum in which it resolutely condemns the policy of the United States, of the Japanese authorities and of the South Korean regime aimed at maintaining the division of Korea and thereby impeding the Korean people's desire for unification. The memorandum condemns the militarization of South Korea, the military and other aid being given to Seoul by the United States and Japan and the assertions about the need for a "balance of power" on the Korean Peninsula. All this, the memorandum states, could lead to the outbreak of a new war in Korea.

The United States has already appropriated in the past a total of $5.6 billion for the creation of South Korea's enormous war machine.

In order to boost South Korea's military potential, Washington has promised to provide Seoul in the next 4 years with an additional $2 billion or so . In particular it is proposed to hand over to Pak Chong-hui's dictatorial regime combat equipment worth $800 million belonging to the U.S. forces in South Korea. While planning to withdraw U.S. ground forces from South Korea over the next 4-5 years, Washington is at the same time demonstrating its full support for the Seoul rulers and its desire to "retain strong military positions in Asia, and to play an active role there." To this end Washington is planning the creation of a U.S.-South Korean combined command.

In addition to this, the U.S. administration is seeking to insure that South Korea and Japan establish direct military links. Much is currently being said in Washington, Seoul and Tokyo about "tripartite military cooperation," which could lead, it is believed, to the creation of a "tripartite security system." The U.S. ruling circles want Japan to make a greater contribution to the strengthening of the Washington-Seoul-Tokyo military-politcal triangle.

Japan's ruling circles are increasing financial aid to the Seoul regime. It has been announced in Tokyo that in the immediate future Japan will be granting Seoul a loan totaling $78 million for "strengthening the security" of both countries. According to Japanese press reports, by 1981 Seoul will have received from Tokyo $3 billion in the form of financial aid.

The growing support for the Seoul rulers on the part of the United States and Japan has led to a veritable military boom in South Korea. The galvanization of military-political activity in the context of the Washington-Seoul-Tokyo triangle is fueling tension on the Korean Peninsula and is creating a threat to peace in the Far East.

The DPRK Government memorandum has once again drawn the attention of the progressive world public to the situation on the Korean Peninsula. The Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community are resolutely supporting the peace-loving policy of the DPRK and are advocating the immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea as the chief condition for the peaceful independent unification of Korea.

INCREASED MILITARISM IN JAPAN MAKES DEMOCRATIC PUBLIC UNEASY

LD091017Y Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 3 Feb 77 p 3 LD

[A. Mozgovoy commentary: "An Escalation of Militarism"]

[Text] "A glorious death in the battle on Attu Island," "The battle in the Hawaiian Islands"--These and another 150 pictures extolling the "heroic exploits" of the Japanese Army in the years of World War II were shown at a recent specialized exhibition in Tokyo's modern art museum. The opening of the display coincided with the publication of a set of colorful postcards and the issue of a set of phonograph records devoted to the Japanese "Self-Defense Forces" today. It is thereby, as it were, being emphasized that the soldiers of the "Self-Defense Forces" are the successors to the "traditions" of the old Imperial Army.

Alas, this is not just a problem of militaristic propaganda. Year after year the strike capability of the Japanese Armed Forces is increasing; these forces have been created despite the strictures of the present constitution, Article 9 of which records that "ground, naval and air forces and equally other means of warfare will" never "be created" in the country. The provisions of this article of the fundamental law have long since been forgotten. Japan's military spending is increasing at the most rapid rate in the world. In fiscal 1979 alone military spending is to be increased by 25 percent at a stroke.

The military industry has also been revived. Japanese plants are now producing practically all types of combat equipment--from automatic rifles to missiles.

The military-industrial complex no longer wishes to content itself with a secondary role in the country's political life. It is increasingly trying to push forward into the foreground. This is evidenced, in particular, by the fact that Japan's National Defense Agency has begun drafting legislation "in case of war." It is assumed that it will include articles of a kind extending far beyond the framework of "wartime," for example, "the ideological mobilization of the people, especially in the sphere of school instruction."

Or here is another example. A recent white paper on Japan's defense states that "it is essential to pay attention not only to instances of the direct use of military force but also to political influence to be used short of military action." In other words, it is a question of the threat of force. As can be seen, the strategists of the National Defense Agency are by no means ruling out the possibility of the use of this "principle" in international relations.

The United States is also seeking the active buildup of Japan's Armed Forces and the expansion of its defense "perimeter." In January the latest Japanese-U.S. conference on questions of the security treaty was held in Honolulu. Its participants discussed ways of further strengthening the military alliance between the two countries, measures for strengthening the Japanese Army, and U.S. strategy in the Pacific zone. Plans for joint operations in the event of "extraordinary circumstances" were also examined. The Pentagon generals are not concealing the fact that they are intending to fasten Japan even more firmly to their war chariot in Asia.

The escalation of militarism is provoking serious anxiety on the part of the Japanese democratic public. Thus, the 1978 program of the Japanese Peace Committee contains an appeal for the expansion of the struggle against the unbridled growth of military spending and against the attempts by the country's ruling circles to strengthen the Japanese-U.S. military alliance.

BREZHNEV PRESENTS BIRTHDAY AWARDS TO KULAKOV IN KREMLIN

LD0913O4Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] In the Kremlin today Comrade Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, presented the Order of Lenin and the Hammer and Sickle Gold Medal of Hero of Socialist Labor to Kulakov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Comrade Kulakov has earned this high award for his great services to the Communist Party and the Soviet state and in connection with his 60th birthday.

Attending the presentation ceremony were: Comrades Grishin, Kirilenko, Kosygin, Mazurov, Pelshe, Suslov, Ustinov, Demichev, Kuznetsov, Ponomarev, Solomentsev, Chernenko, Dolgikh, Zimyanin, Ryabov and Rusakov, and Gedrgadze, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Comrade Brezhnev delivered a speech at the presentation ceremony. He said: [read by announcer]

Dear Fedor Davydovich: We--all your friends and comrades at work--have gathered with feelings of happiness today to congratulate you once more on the occasion of your 60th birthday and to present you with the high award of the motherland.

You, Fedor Davydovich, are almost a comtemporary of the Great October, and already one can say that your biography, your activity, is wholly connected with the great work of our Leninist party in implementing the immortal ideas of October, the ideas of communism.

At 20 you became an agricultural expert and since then you have devoted all your efforts primarily to such an important sector of our national economy as agriculture. You know the real value of grain, know how much labor people devote to insuring stable harvests and increases in livestock-raising productivity. You also know how difficult and responsible are the tasks which the Soviet rural workers are called upon to resolve now and how much there is to be done in the future.

As a member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, you are making a worthwhile contribution to the comradely, collective work of the leading organs of the party and toward the building of communism. Any great task is bound to be beset with difficulties; this also applies to building a new society.

It demands from all its participants, and particularly from its leaders, constant creativity and total application of efforts. At the same time, it is a great job to make one's contribution to the birth of a communist future.

Allow me to express the conviction, dear Fedor Davydovich, that you will in the future just as honorably justify the party's trust in you and just as selflessly labor for the welfare of the Soviet people. I wish you robust health, energy and new creative successes. I heartily congratulate you on the award of the title of Hero of Socialist Labor. Allow me to present you with the Order of Lenin and the Gold Medal of the Hammer and Sickle.

Then Comrade Kulakov made a speech: [read by announcer]

Dear Leonid Ilich, dear comrades! Allow me to express my sincere gratitude and deepest thanks to the party Central Committee, the Central Committee Politburo and Secretariat, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the Soviet Government and personally to you, esteemed Leonid Ilich, for such a high award and evaluation of my activity.

At this moment I am particularly touched by the warm words you, dear Leonid Ilich, have addressed to me. This is a great honor for me, and as a communist I relate it fully to our own Leninist party, the great teacher, organizer and educator of the masses, the bearer of the loftiest and most humane ideals.

I have been a member of the CPSU for a total of 38 years, virtually my entire conscious life, and wherever the party has sent me--to industry, to economic, Komsomol, soviet or party work, in rayon, oblast, kray or republic--I have tried to justify its trust in me and have given the assigned task all my efforts and knowledge.

In the past 12 years or more I have had the happy opportunity to work in the central headquarters of our party, in the department of the Secretariat, then the Central Committee Politburo under the direct leadership of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. Work in the Central Committee is the greatest school. Truly Leninist norms of party life and principles of leadership have now become firmly established in the activities of the highest organs of our party. A wonderful businesslike situation has been created--a situation of practicality and purposefulness in work, a comprehensive, truly scientific and creative approach to matters and fruitful activity for the well-being of the Soviet people in the name of the triumph of the glorious ideas of communism.

All this arouses new strength in each of us and evokes a desire to work with even greater energy, with feelings of lofty duty. Leonid Ilich Brezhnev is a model for all of us in party mindedness, Leninist style, organizational ability and efficiency in work. He is the wise and farsighted leader of our party and state, outstanding Marxist-Leninist, ardent fighter for peace and social progress, earning the deepest respect and love of communists and all Soviet people, enjoying tremendous authority among the working people of the world.

Dear Leonid Ilich, Soviet people rightly link your name and untiring activity to all the successes achieved in strengthening the economic and defense might of our country and improving the well-being of the people.

Your name is inseparably linked to the theoretical resolution of major problems of communist building, the future creative development of Marxist-Leninist teaching, the determination of party political and economic strategy in the stage of developed socialism, the adoption of the fundamental law--the new USSR Constitution. One exceptional service of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev is the formulation of a new approach to management of the agricultural economy and the positive changes which have been achieved following the March (1965) CPSU Central Committee Plenum in the development of this branch and in social progress in the countryside.

Allow me, dear Leonid Ilich, together with words of the deepest gratitude, to wish you the best of health and much success in your high position as leader of the Communist Party and the Soviet state. Once again, thank you dear comrades and friends for your trust and high evaluation of my modest work.

In accepting today the highest award of the motherland, I assure the Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo and Secretariat and you, dear Leonid Ilich, that I will do everything to justify your trust and the trust of the party and the people and will in future faithfully serve the cause of Lenin, the cause of communism, the cause of the successful implementation of the historic decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress.

The leader of the Communist Party, and the Soviet state warmly and sincerely congratulated Comrade Kulakov on the high award of the motherland and wished him good health and new successes in his activity for the good of the Communist Party and the Soviet people.

ROMANOV READS BREZHNEV GREETINGS TO BUILDERS OF ICEBREAKER

LD061656Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Text] A meeting devoted to Comrade Brezhnev's greetings to the makers of the atomic icebreaker Sibir took place in Leningrad today at the Baltic shipyard. The greetings were read out by Comrade Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom. With great enthusiasm the participants in the meeting adopted a letter to Leonid Ilich Brezhnev.

Brezhnev Greetings

LD091249Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Text] To the workers, engineering and technical workers and employees, operators, party, trade union and Komsomol organizations and all participants in the construction of the nuclear icebreaker "Sibir".

Dear Comrades:

I warmly congratulate you on the great labor victory, the construction of and handing over for use of the atomic icebreaker "Sibir." The raising of efficiency and work quality, the introduction of progressive technology and the creative initiatives of the workers have allowed Leningrad shipbuilders to considerably reduce the length of time needed to construct an icebreaker and to finish its trials ahead of schedule, by the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

The successful trip to the North Pole by the most powerful atomic icebreaker in the world, the "Arktika," has confirmed the high level of scientific and technical decisions adopted in building icebreakers and has opened great possibilities for mastering the regions of the extreme north.

The introduction into the marine fleet of the new atomic icebreaker Sibir will increase the efficiency of transportation in the North Sea passage.

I wish you, dear comrades, good health and new labor successes in fulfilling the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the 1977 December Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

[signed] L. Brezhnev.

Romanov Addresses Workers

LD062005Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 6 Feb 78 LD

[Excerpt] It was with deep satisfaction that the people of Leningrad received the congratulations from Leonid Ilich Brezhnev to the constructors of the atomic icebreaker "Sibir." There was a meeting today at the Baltic shipyward wher the icebreaker was built. It was addressed by Friogiy Vasilyevich Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom. Here is what he said in particular:

[Romanov--recorded] In this warm and cordial letter the constant attention by the party Central Committee, the Politburo and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally to the working class, to all people of labor and the constructors of new precision equipment, and real party concern for every possible way to increase production efficiency and work quality have been demonstrated with fresh force.

Together with you, Baltic shipyard comrades, feelings of joy and pride are felt by the collectives of the Kirovskiy Zavod and Elektrosila associations, the Izhorskiy and Proletarskiy factories, and the enterprises of many of our country's towns.

Allow me, dear comrades, to express the firm conviction that the party organizations and all working people, responding in deed to the high appraisal received today in the greetings from Lecnid Ilich Brezhnev, will cope successfully with all the tasks and will make a worthy contribution toward fulfilling the decions of the historic 25th congress of our Leninist party. [applause] [end recording]

SHORTCOMINGS, EXCESSIVE TOLERANCE SEEN IN LAW, ORDER ORGANS

LD090915Y Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 31 Jan 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "The Public and Law and Order"]

[Summary] "In safeguarding the interests of society and each of its members the state wages a resolute struggle against those who violate the established legal norms and encroach on socialist and private property." We are doing a great deal to combat hooliganism, drunkenness and other law violations. "An important role in maintaining law and order is allocated to the militia." And many militia departments have produced good results here, as have area inspectors, who "essentially are the stalwarts of the job, safeguarding the citizens' peace day and night."

"The support points and social councils at enterprises, the people's militia and the comrades' courts are performing effective work in preventing law violations." The voluntary people's militia is also helping to safeguard law and order.

"In a word, the definite successes in the struggle against law violators are obvious." Nonetheless, more can be done, and the main responsibility here rests with the local soviets and their executive committees. "But some executive committees are only feebly guiding the activity of the militia departments, although the latter are their working organs.

"There are also shortcomings in the work of the militia itself. In some places there is a liberal attitude toward hooligans, rowdies and persistent drunkards, and alarm signals and complaints from citizens are answered only after a long delay and investigations are conducted only superficially. Complaints are also made about the rudeness and lack of self-control of individual militia employees. Such cases are intolerable. The Ministry of Internal Affairs and party and soviet organs must take specific and effective measures on every such case."

In a number of places the support points and people's militia are insufficiently active, and some labor collectives have a tolerant attitude toward misdemeanors by their members. Here too the local soviets could do more to put matters right and improve preventive work.

"Exemplary law and order in every city and village of the republic--that is the goal to which the entire activity of the administrative organs should be subordinated. In this the party, Soviet and social organizations and all labor collectives are called on to render them all-round support."

COSMONAUTS CONTINUE EXPERIMENTS ABOARD SALYUT-6 COMPLEX

LD0913102 Moscow TASS in English 1237 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Flight control centre, February 9, TASS--By ten a.m. Moscow time, the Soviet Salyut-6 orbital scientific station made 2,100 orbits round the earth, with 946 orbits with a crew on board.

The Cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko continue accomplishing the planned scientific and technical research and experiments. Under the earth's natural resources research program, the crew make visual observations and do photography of individual areas of the Soviet Union and the world ocean area.

During the day the cosmonauts also carry out a preventive inspection of the on-board systems of the Salyut-6 station and the Soyuz-27 spaceship, perform physical exercises with the use of the bicycle ergometer and the running-track facility.

According to crew reports and telemetry data, the on-board systems of the Salyut-6-Soyuz-27 space complex are functioning normally. Romanenko and Grechko are feeling well. The work in terrestrial orbit is going on.

Good Physical Condition

LD0919242 Moscow TASS in English 1736 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 9, TASS--High efficiency and good health of Yuriy Romanenko and Grigoriy Grechko, their excellent spirits testify to favourable mutual relations between weightlessness and the cosmonauts, the crew of the orbital station Salyut-6, a TASS correspondent has been told by Doctor of Medical Sciences Nikolay Gurovskiy. The physiological condition of the members of the crew are practically at the level they had on earth.

Nikolay Gurovskiy stressed that the crew work in harmony with the earth, specifically with the medical team.

The crew's physician conversed many times with the cosmonauts. Romanenko and Grechko talked with Oleg Gazenko, director of the institute of medico-biological problems, who gave the cosmonauts a number of valuable recommendations.

We on earth, Nikolay Gurovskiy said, had apprehensions that Vladimir Dzhanibekov and Oleg Makarov, who paid a visit to the Salyut-6 station, could bring there some infection from earth, and therefore special preventive measures were taken. Everything was all right.

Nikolay Gurovskiy noted that in the near-earth space the situation at the moment is favourable for the flight. The radiation safety service every day provides the flight control centre with information it receives from sputniks. The earth keeps a close eye over the health of its envoys.

BRIEFS

KHABAROVSKIY KRAY RELAY STATION--A new television relay station has been commissioned in Kuldur settlement in Khabarovskiy Kray. It serves the Kuldur and Perevalnyy railway stations and nearby areas on the Izvestkovyy-Chegdomyn branch line. [Blagoveshchensk Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 7 Feb 78 OW]

FOREIGN OBSERVERS COMMENT ON 'BEREZINA' MANEUVERS

LD091316Y Moscow TASS in English 1214 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 9, TASS--Foreign military observers are present at the current Soviet "Berezina" exercises in Belorussia. A TASS correspondent interviewed some of them:

Lieutenant General Miroslav Blahnik of Czechoslovakia said that the Soviet Union always comes up with peace initiatives which agree with the spirit of the Helsinki agreement. The Soviet Union's policy in all the post-war years has been aimed at creating an atmosphere of trust and cooperation. The Soviet Union has made over a hundred major proposals on disarmament, thus demonstrating every time its peaceful aspirations.

Major General Edward Barges (Britain) said he was very glad to have received an invitation to these exercises. He said that the measures provided by the Helsinki agreement to strengthen trust in the military field are an important factor for creating and maintaining an atmosphere of confidence and mutual understanding between the countries.

Brigadier General Van Daalen (the Netherlands) said that "an invitation to exercises is one of the ways of strengthening confidence between countries."

Major General Karl Heintz Drews (the GDR) said: "This invitation is regarded by the GDR Government as fresh proof of the fact that the Soviet Union and the Soviet Government take very seriously the implementation of international treaties, especially when the matter concerns the security of the world. Meetings of representatives of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty during the 'Berezina' exercises undoubtedly help strengthen mutual understanding between our countries."

Captain, first class, Heinrich Abel (the FRG) said: "I consider very encouraging the fact that a representative of the FRG may take part, for the second time in a year, in such measures. The invitation we received agrees fully with the spirit of the Helsinki accords".

Major General Robert Tabari (Belgium) said that the invitation was extended in the spirit of the Helsinki accords. "An invitation to exercises will facilitate the relaxation of tension in relations between countries. We are living in the same continent and it would be good to believe each other".

General of the Division Ignaci Szczensnowicz (Poland) said: "The Soviet Union is pursuing persistently a peaceful foreign policy, making proposals for easing international tensions".

Observers Leave Minsk

LD091846Y Mosoow TASS in English 1831 GMT 9 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Minsk, February 9, TASS--Military observers from Belgium, GDR, FRG, Netherlands, Poland, Great Britain, United States, France, Czechoslovakia and Switzerland who watched the troops exercises of the Belorussian Military District code-named "Berezina" left the capital of Soviet Belorussia, Minsk, this evening.

Report on Exercise

LD091315Y Moscow TRUD in Russian 7 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Special correspondent Yu. Dmitriyev report: "Tanks Go Into Battle"]

[Text] Red Banner Belorussian Military District, 6 February--February has come to Belorussia with endless blizzards and icy winds. But the hard frost is no obstacle to the armored troops of the subunit in which Maj Yuriy Yershov serves as deputy commander for political affairs. In the snow-covered forest the servicemen have equipped an excellent military town, which lives in accordance with strict military order. At exactly 0600 there is reveille, a brief session of physical exercise in the fresh air, and breakfast. Then combat drill, political classes and training.

At one of the sessions forming part of the "Berezina" military exercise we saw how ably and skillfully the subunit servicemen drove their tanks. They have excellent vehicles: fast and maneuverable, with low profiles. The task was to attack an "enemy" strongpoint on the move. Travelling across country, the tank crews were able to rapidly fulfill the task and repulse flank counterattacks. The offensive was conducted rapidly, and the armored troops collaborated skillfully with motorized infantry troops and were able to hit all targets accurately.

After the training battle I got to know one of the best crews. It is commanded by Sgt Nikolay Denisovich, who was conscripted into the service from Brest. Mikhail Zemtsov, who worked as an assemblyman-fitter at a television plant before his military service, drives this awesome tank excellently. The gunner, Pvt Mikhail Mishkevich, a former welder from Minsk, fires the main gun and machinegun in a masterly fashion. It was he who managed to hit all the targets accurately when travelling at high speed. After the session Maj Yuriy Yershov thanked him for his excellent shooting.

The servicemen are proud that they are serving on heroic Belorussian soil. Every stone here gives a reminder of the courage and staunchness of the Soviet soldiers. By the main Moscow highway a monument towers which bears the moving inscription: "... erected in honor of the Soviet mother and patriot, of whom Anastasiya Fominichna Kupriyanova was a pioneer. Five of her sons perished in the struggle against the German-fascist invaders. The youngest of them--Hero of the Soviet Union Petr Kupriyanov--accomplished an immortal feat by blocking the embrasure of an enemy earth and timber pill-box with his own body.

Near the settlement of Radoshkovichi, where the road forks, there is a unique monument. It was erected on the site of an immortal heroic feat by Hero of the Soviet Union, Pilot Nikolay Gastello and his crew on the fifth day of the war.

At present meetings between the servicemen participating in the "Berezina" military exercise and workers, peasants and cultural workers are taking place. The servicemen are assuring the working people that they will apply all their effort and skill to demonstrate their high military mastery.

Your correspondent was told today at the exercise command headquarters that the troops participating in the exercise are divided by prior arrangement into "northern" and "southern" troops. The "southern" troops developing their offensive along the Orsha salient, were halted by the "northern" troops and are fighting stubborn battles in an attempt to continue their offensive in individual sectors.

At the same time, they are regrouping and drawing up their forces to continue the offensive. The "northern" troops are also regrouping and preparing to take the offensive along the Minsk salient.

FEATURES OF ARMY OF DEVELOPED SOCIALIST SOCIETY TRACED

LD091641Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Feb 78 P 1 LD

[Editorial: "Army of the Country of Developed Socialism"]

[Text] In the six decades of the Soviet state our people have more than once been obliged to take up arms to defend their gains. Each time they have emerged victor. "We," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said in the report "Great October and the Progress of Mankind," "were victorious in the terrible, troubled years of the civil war and armed intervention, when the question of whether or not Soviet power was to be was being decided. We were victorious in the grim, fiery years of the Great Patriotic War, when the question was being decided--can socialism withstand the onslaught of the crack forces of world imperialism and save mankind from fascist enslavement."

These victories showed the whole world that the Great October Socialist Revolution can defend itself and that the army of liberated workers and peasants to which it gave birth is the indestructible armed bulwark of the land of the soviets.

The main source and foundation of the Soviet state's reliable defense capability and of the combat might of its army are the outstanding achievements of the Soviet people in developing the economy and culture, science and technology. Building the society of developed socialism in our country has immense significance for further strengthening the socialist motherland's security and for improving the combat capability of the USSR Armed Forces.

The society of developed socialism is a society in which mighty productive forces have been created. Relying on them and on the immense economic, scientific and technical potential, the Communist Party and its Central Committee direct the efforts, creative energy and activity of the Soviet people toward the successful resolution of the tasks of creating communism's material and technical base and of further raising the Soviet people's material and cultural standard of living. Our party's foreign policy and its indefatigable struggle for the relaxation of international tension are subordinated to insuring peaceful conditions for the most effective realization of the potentials of developed socialism and for the successful resolution of the tasks of building communism.

But the Communist Party takes into account that the forces of war and aggression and the opponents of detente still wield considerable resources. In imperialist countries the arms race is continuing and the buildup of arsenals of lethal weapons is in progress. Taking this into consideration, our party and the whole Soviet people show constant concern for strengthening the security of their motherland and are tirelessly improving the defense capability of the Soviet state and its army's combat might. The USSR Armed Forces are now equipped with all the modern facilities making it possible to resolve operation tactical and strategic tasks on any scale in the defense of the socialist fatherland and the gains of socialism and communism.

The society of developed socialism is a society of mature socialist social relations, in which the alliance of the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry and the people's intelligentsia, the fraternal friendship and cooperation of all nations and nationalities and the ideological, political and social cohesion of the working people have established themselves even more firmly.

This is embodied in our army, and above all in its unity with the people, in the internal unity of the USSR Armed Forces, in the social cohesion of representatives of all social groups, nations and nationalities performing military service under combat banners, and in the unity of the rank and file, political officer, engineering and technical and the entire personnel. Herein lies one of the great advantages of our military organization and one of the decisive sources of its invincibility.

The society of developed socialism is one of high organization, ideological conviction and awareness of the working people--patriots and internationalists--and of their selfless devotion to the ideals of communism. This particular feature of the developed socialist society is embodied in the whole spiritual make-up and structure of the USSR Armed Forces. The Soviet serviceman, educated by the whole tenor of socialist life, in the process of the party's purposeful ideological work, is notable for this high political maturity, ideological conviction and feeling of personal responsibility for the cause of the motherland's defense.

The sociopolitical and spiritual development of Soviet society exerts a positive influence on the qualitative state of the rank and file and officers of army and navy. Almost 100 percent of Soviet servicemen now have completed at least eight grades. The portion of servicemen with higher and secondary education is about 80 percent, while on the eve of the Great Patriotic War it was only 12 percent. Today more than 50 percent of the officers have higher military and specialist military education.

The society of developed socialism is a society in which the leading and guiding force and the nucleus of its political system and of state and social organizations is the Communist Party. It is the leader, the collective captain of the Soviet Armed Forces, the inspirer and organizer of their worldwide, historic victories in battles against the imperialist aggressors. The strengthening in every way of the army and navy is seen by the party as a top-priority task.

Powerful and rallied closely around the Leninist party, the armed forces of the country of developed socialism are marching to greet their 60th anniversary. The preparation for this jubilee is accompanied by growing activity among servicemen to further strengthen combat readiness. A broad response was aroused among army and navy personnel by the letter of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee on launching socialist competition for 1978. In subunits, units and on ships the main attention is being paid to the complete and high-quality fulfillment of combat and political training plans and competition pledges. The organizational and mass political work of commanders, political organizers and party organizations is aimed at this.

The most unimportant task of mass political work is to broadly reveal the leading, revolutionary transforming activity of the Communist Party in building socialism and communism and the inexhaustible sources of its combat might, and to propagandize in every way the revolutionary, combat and labor traditions of the Soviet people and their outstanding achievements in the struggle to implement the economic strategy and social policy of the party, as elaborated by the 25th CPSU Congress.

Soviet people are confident that the USSR Armed Forces will continue to be the reliable guardian of the creative labor and security of the peoples of the USSR, and the bulwark of universal peace.

MARSHAL BATITSKY PRAISES QUALITIES OF AIR DEFENSE FORCES

LD061255Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Jan 78 p 6 LD

[Untitled commentary by Marshal of the Soviet Union P. Batitskiy]

[Text] The sentries of our air frontiers rightfully occupy a worthy place in the harmonious family of service men of the Soviet Armed Forces.

The Air Defense Forces [PVO Strany] have been set particularly important tasks--to defend the population, political, administrative, economic and cultural centers and military installations and troops from air attack. In speaking of these tasks it is necessary to consider not only the immensity of the air space and territory of our motherland but also the ceaseless development of means of air attack and the special role give these means in the imperialists' aggressive military plans.

The air defense missile unit commanded by Col Yu. Orlov is one of the foremost units. These are many brilliant pages in the history of this unit which was formed in the war years. Its batteries fought near Tuapse and in Malaya Zemlya in the region of Novorossiysk. ... Their combat tally numbers tens of enemy aircraft shot down. In peace-time the air defense gunners, now armed with missiles, are worthily continuing the traditions of their forefathers and fathers.

PRAVDA today tells of one of the foremost units of the Air Defense Forces, but I want to say that there are many excellent units and divisions. I understand that it is impossible to speak of all of them in one report. I will just name a few. These are, for example, the units and divisions commanded by officers M. Anishchenko, A. Kalachinskiy, V. Sadykov....

It is not, of course, easy to show the whole formidable might and sophistication of the arms and combat equipment of the Air Defense Forces in a newspaper article. In one combat formation missile troops, fighter pilots and troops of the radio mechanic forces protect our motherland's skies. United by a sense of responsibility for the motherland's air frontiers, our servicemen skilfully master formidable combat equipment and weapons. Modern antiaircraft missile complexes, supersonic all-weather interceptors, radar sets, automated directed systems and highspeed communications are in reliable strong hands.

The strength of the Air Defense Forces lies in their selfless devotion to the party and people. They are prepared at any moment to go into battle against anyone who infringes our air frontiers and to do everything to insure that the skies above our motherland are always clear.

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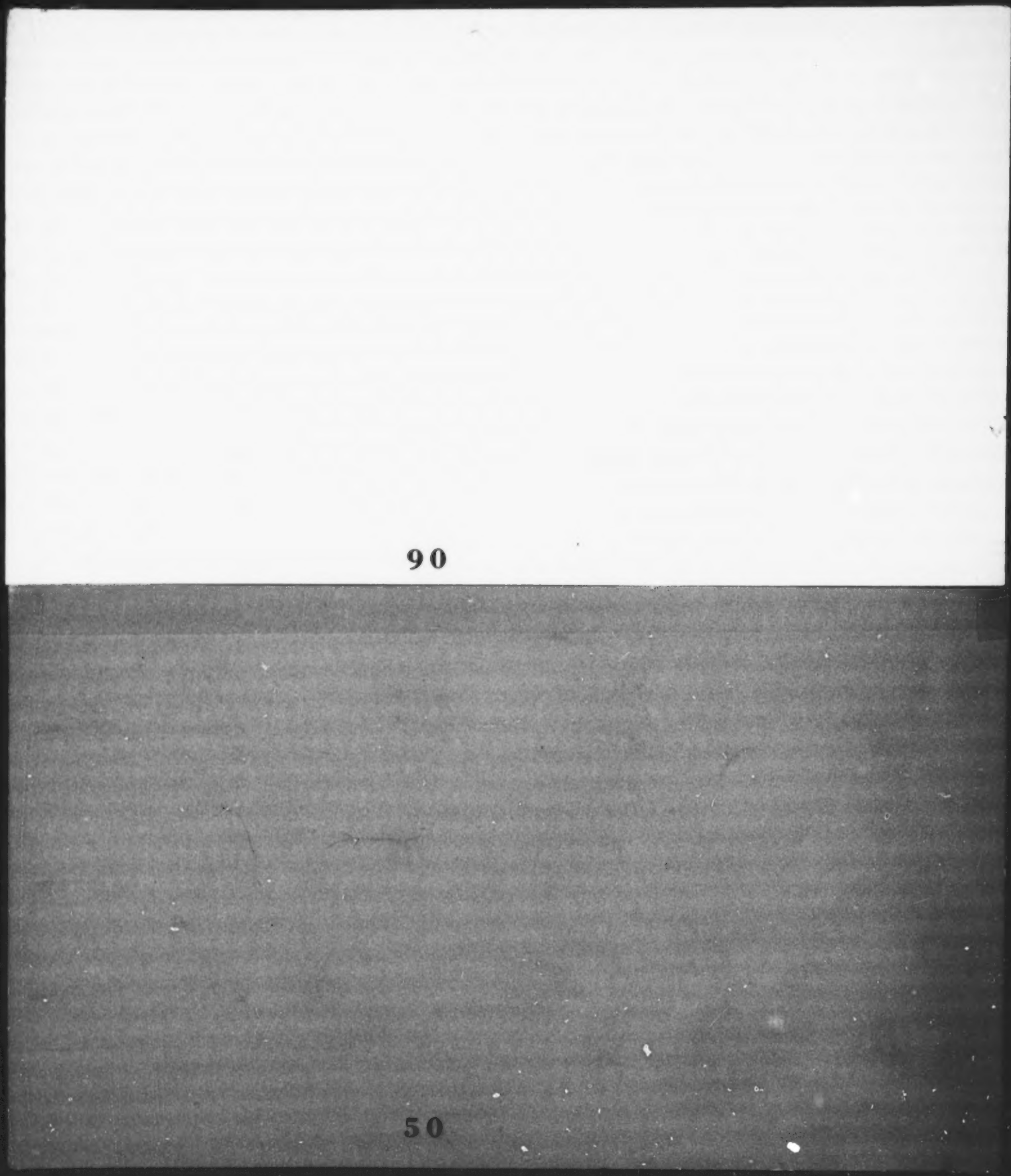
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